METRO / A25

NBI to probe UP hazing tragedy

SPORTS / A32

Sharapova leads march of US Open favorites

WORLD / A27

Hostage ordeal ends: Taliban free remaining 7 Koreans

NEWS / A4

Carlo Caparas comics sent to soldiers fighting Abus; also eyed for literacy program

NEWS / A2

Tito, Vic and Joey offer expertise in 'Hello Papi' probe

We have Vatican support, says Meloto

By Beverly T. Natividad

AFTER THE SPLIT INTO TWO FACTIONS OF the lay movement Couples for Christ (CfC), one side now claims to have the official recognition of the Church hierarchy.

Commenting on the split in an interview over dzBB yesterday, Antonio Meloto, who was the head of the CfC's highly successful

WE HAVE/ A19

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Saturday, September 1, 2007 ★★ 10 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 265 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Now, AFP says there are 2 Delfin de Guzmans

By Christine O. Avendaño

WILL THE REAL DELFIN de Guzman please stand up?

The military yesterday denied a cover-up in the Jonas Burgos

AFP/ A19

JOSE HARESH TANODRA

FAVORITE SON COMES HOME FOR GOOD
The whole town of New Washington, Aklan, turns out for the unveiling of the 20-foot metal bronze monument of the late Jaime Cardinal Sin on his 79th birthday on Friday. His hometown welcomes his homecoming with bells tolling, fireworks galore and bands playing. At the foot of the statue are Senate President Manny Villar, House Speaker Jose de Venecia, Aklan Rep. Joven Miraflores, Gov. Carlito Marquez and members of the Sin family. ***(Related story on Page A20.)***

Teves: Abalos set meeting with ZTE

The 2 officials give conflicting accounts

By Michelle V. Remo, Nikko Dizon and Ronnel W. Domingo

FINANCE SECRETARY MARGARITO TEVES HAS CONFIRMED that he was introduced to officials of the China-based ZTE Corp. during a meeting with Transportation and Communications Secretary Leandro Mendoza and Commission on Elections Chair Benjamin Abalos.

"Yes, I was with him [Abalos] in a meeting where I was introduced to ZTE people," Teves said in an ambush interview with reporters yesterday.

He said the meeting with ZTE officials talked about the $329-million national broadband network (NBN) project.

In an interview with the INQUIRER the other day, Abalos said he and ZTE officials met with Teves at the finance secretary's house in Alabang, Muntinlupa, "one afternoon last year."

But Abalos said the NBN project was never a part of the conversation, nor did he help ZTE to get the deal.

He also told the INQUIRER that the ZTE officials were interested in a project for the Davao Special Economic Zone and wanted to meet with government officials who could help them.

Yesterday, Teves told ANC that during the meeting with ZTE, Abalos did not talk about a project for the Mindanao economic zone but only about the broadband.

Teves said the discussions at the Abalos-Mendoza-ZTE meeting did not go into details of the proposed NBN project.

Teves also said no lobbying was done with him by Abalos or any other person for the ZTE.

And after that initial introduction to the ZTE officials, he did not have any meetings again concerning the ZTE deal, he said.

TEVES/ A17

Senators tell Gonzalez: Take permanent leave

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Leila B. Salaverria and Michael Lim Ubac

SENATORS YESTERDAY URGED Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez to make his leave from office permanent after hearing news that the President had "approved the request of Gonzalez for a one-month sick leave."

"I suggest that he just continue his leave because it will be good for his health," said Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr.

Sen. Jinggoy Estrada was more blunt. "I hope he does not come back anymore, he should just continue his leave," said Estrada. "We have many jobless Filipinos and

SENATORS/ A9

Villar, Roxas: Growth means little to jobless

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Michael Lim Ubac

THE SURPRISINGLY HIGH GROWTH posted by the economy in the second quarter might be impressive but means very little to jobless urban dwellers and low-income farmers, senators said yesterday.

Sen. Mar Roxas warned that the record economic growth was bloated by higher consumption driven by the election spending in the second quarter while Senate President Manny Villar questioned whether the President was "tricking" the public into believing the economy was booming.

Even foreign banks are also skeptical of the stronger-than-expected growth of the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

"We suspect that growth may be overstated," HSBC Markets (Asia) commented in a note after Thursday's announcement.

VILLAR, ROXAS/ A10

A ROYAL AFFAIR: President Arroyo is welcomed by Malaysia's royals, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong and Raja Permaisuri Agong at the Istana Melawati, Putrajaya for high tea, one of the festivities marking the 50th independence day of Malaysia. MALACAÑANG PHOTO

Joma ordered held for 2 more weeks; Kenney says US to help prosecute him

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS —A Dutch court Friday ordered Filipino communist rebel leader Jose Ma. Sison held for two more weeks so prosecutors can investigate allegations he ordered the murder of two former allies in Manila, his associates said.

Luis Jalandoni, a leader of the Philippines' National Democratic Front, relayed the court's decision to supporters outside the courtroom after speaking to Sison's defense attorney.

He quoted the lawyer as dismissing the prosecution's evidence as "ridiculous," but said the judges gave the authorities 14 days before the next hearing.

In Manila, US Ambassador Kristie Kenney said the United States was willing to help the government of The Netherlands to prosecute Sison but stressed that the US assistance would only come if the Dutch government would ask for it.

Sison is reportedly being detained at the Scheveningen Pen-

JOMA ORDERED/ A8

AFP parades full force in run-up to Erap verdict

By Christine O. Avendaño and Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

THE ARMED FORCES YESTERDAY brought out its combat troops, armored carriers and cannons to show its readiness to meet contingencies in Metro Manila, amid rumors of fresh destabilization plots and possible violence if deposed President Joseph Estrada was convicted in his plunder trial.

With their arms and heavy equipment, over 1,000 members of the AFP National Capital Region Command (NCRCom) and the Philippine Marines demonstrated their readiness during ceremonies held in Fort Bonifacio and Camp Aguinaldo.

Estrada described the planned deployment of troops and police forces around

AFP PARADES/ A18

Joma always aware of cops; they were next-door neighbors

By Ernie U. Sarmiento
Chief Photographer

UTRECHT, THE NETHERlands—Even in exile, Jose Ma. Sison was always conscious of the presence of the police. They never seemed too far from him.

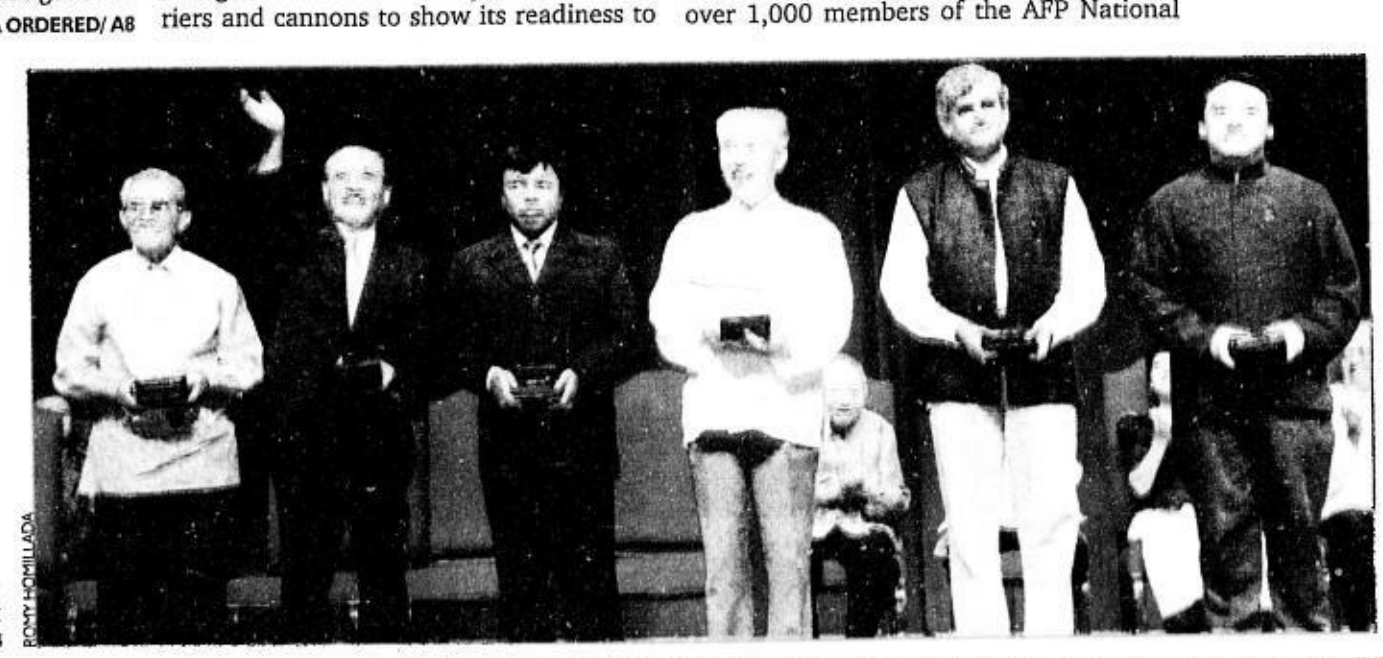
In fact, the first place he took freelance photographer Alex Baluyut and me to was a police station when we dropped in on him last April during our trip to Utrecht, the central Dutch city (pop: 288,000), where he has lived for 20 years.

The station stood a few meters from the headquarters of the National Democratic Front (NDF).

"From here," Sison said, standing outside the station, "the police can always monitor us just by looking out of their window."

On Tuesday, Dutch police did more than just

JOMA/ A8



ROMY HOMILLADA

ASIA'S BEST MAGSAYSAY AWARDEES
From left, Jovito Salonga, Philippines, government service; Kim Sun-Tae, Korea, public service; Mahabir Pun, Nepal, community leadership; Tang Xiyang, China, peace/international understanding; Palagummi Sainath, India, journalism, literature/creative communication arts; Chung To, China, emergent leadership. A 7th awardee (for emergent leadership) was unable to attend as he's in jail in his hometown for exposing local officials' violations of China's one-child policy.

EZ2 FOUR DIGIT
20 3 | 5 8 5 9
Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening
0 7 5 | 9 3 1
(All in exact order)
MEGALOTTO 6/45
5 25 27 33 34 45
P25,955,478.00

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Second FRONTPAGE

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/nation
Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2007

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Mostly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Mostly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Mostly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Mostly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Mostly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Mostly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Mostly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Mostly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

COMPILED BY: SCHATZI QUODALA, PDI RESEARCH/08/31/07 SOURCE: PAGASA

Tito, Vic, Joey offer expertise in probe

By Gil Cabacungan Jr.

THE COMEDY TRIO TITO, VIC AND JOEY IS KEEN ON BRINGING their street smarts to the Senate that is looking into the "Hello Papi" scandal of their rival show.

The hosts of "Eat Bulaga," the country's longest-running television program, said they were willing to appear before the Senate to provide "key inputs" on how to run a scam-proof game on television.

Senators Mar Roxas (chair of the committee on trade and commerce), Ramon Revilla Jr. (chair of the committee on information and mass media), and Lito Lapid (chair of the committee on games and amusement) have expressed interest in looking into the scandal.

Roxas has already asked the Department of Trade and Industry to explain why they have failed to monitor these TV show contests to protect the interest of TV viewers.

Roxas said the TV games were clearly part of the coverage of DTI, which was still verifying complaint against the show, because the TV viewers were like consumers that should be protected from being duped.

Experience

Former Sen. Tito Sotto III said he and his TVJ partners—Vic Sotto and Joey de Leon—could help senators on the mechanics of TV games with close to 30 years experience in hosting and crafting novelty games on television ("Eat Bulaga" started airing in 1979).

"We're ready to volunteer our experience on how to host a TV game and how to ensure the integrity of these contests. We will tell them how these are run so that the host would not make a mistake," said Sotto, a two-time senator who lost in his attempt to return to the Senate last May.

The Senate is looking into the mounting verbal complaints on "Wowowee" host Willie Revillame who was caught fumbling in revealing where the jackpot number "2" in the show's "Wilyonaryo" portion was placed.

Revillame claimed that he has nothing to explain because there have been no complaints while Wowowee's producer, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp., has dismissed the incident as an honest mistake.

But Sotto said it was "too much a stretch" for ABS-CBN to claim that because the video footage clearly showed that Revillame had control of what number to show.

Mistake

"Everybody can see the irregularity. You cannot afford to make a mistake here and you cannot put two numbers in one box," said Sotto who noted that this incident has never happened in their show.

"Wilyonaryo" is a rip-off of the "Laban o Bawi" portion of "Eat Bulaga" where a contestant is asked to arrange seven boxes (containing six zeroes and a single one) to form the jackpot prize of P1 million.

"There might have been one instance where we prematurely opened the jackpot number but never have we placed two numbers in one box," said Sotto.

PROBING WOWOWEE
Sen. Mar Roxas, chair of the Senate committee on trade and commerce, receives the request of Bayani Santos, spokesperson of Tanglaw ng Bayan, to investigate alleged irregularities in the controversial noontime show "Wowowee." ROGER MARGALLO

Defense chief shrugs off 'Hello Garci'

By Christine O. Avendaño

THE REVIVAL OF THE "HELLO Garci" controversy in the Senate was not a matter of interest to Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro Jr. who yesterday said he was focused on the country's security situation.

The Senate investigation into the alleged election fraud scandal in the 2004 presidential elections was "beyond the province of my department," Teodoro told reporters who asked him about his position on the Senate probe.

When informed by reporters that the scandal allegedly involved military wiretapping activities, he shot back: "I will react properly if and when it comes to my table."

"I will not advise anybody at this point in time until it reaches me. I'm focused on a lot of security situations, and to distract focus on that would be very unwise at this point in time," Teodoro said.

Asked whether he was interested to know if the military, particularly, the intelligence service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, was engaged in wiretapping, the defense chief said this was an "operational matter and not a policy matter for me."

Teodoro was a member of the House (representing Tarlac) during the scandal that almost brought down the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo in 2005.

The Senate has designated three committees to reopen the investigation of alleged wiretapped conversations between the President and Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano. The two were said to be discussing rigging the 2004 presidential polls, a charge denied by Ms Arroyo and Garcillano.

The Senate has reopened the investigation after opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson presented a video testimony from former Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp) agent T/Sgt. Vidal Doble who attested that he had bugged Ms Arroyo and Garcillano.

KWARTA ARAW-ARAW

Send money thru ML KWARTA PADALA
and have a chance to win cash prizes!

4 Winners will be drawn daily

Win as much as the amount sent.

Promo Period:
Aug. 1 to Nov. 30, 2007

Registered ML Card holders will win double their prize

Per DTI-NCR permit # 3598
series of 2007

MECHANICS:
1. All M.Lhuillier Kwarta Padala send-out transactions qualify for this promo.
2. For every KPTN reflected on the MLKP send-out form, participant earns one (1) computer generated raffle entry.
3. Transactions within the day from 12:00mn to 11:59pm qualifies for the draw. On the following day, non-winning entries after the day's draw will not be included in the succeeding draws.
4. There will be 4 winners per day broken down as follows: *Two (2) winners from Luzon/NCR and two (2) winners from Visayas/Mindanao.*
5. Lucky sender wins back the amount sent as reflected on the winning ML Kwarta Padala send-out form.
6. If the winner is a registered ML Cardholder during the time of the draw, he wins double the amount sent. If the winner is a registered ML Cardholder, the branch operator where the winner got his ML Card wins P1,000.00 cash.
7. A customer is considered an ML Cardholder if during the transaction the customer presents to the frontliner his/her ML Card that has already been registered prior to the transaction.
8. Winners will be notified thru phone call and by registered mail. Names of winners will be posted in all M. Lhuillier branches and published in a newspaper of general circulation.
9. A winning KPTN number only wins once during the entire duration of the promo.
10. Winners must personally present the winning ML Kwarta Padala send-out form at any M. Lhuillier branch with a valid ID together with the registered mail from M. Lhuillier to claim their prize plus his ML Card if any.
11. Prizes not claimed 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of M. Lhuillier Philippines with prior approval of DTI.
12. All employees of M. Lhuillier Philippines and their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.
13. Promo is from August 01 to November 30, 2007

ML KWARTA PADALA®
We move your money fast!

"Ang Tulay ng Pilipino"
MLHUILLIER
NUMERO UNO NG BAYAN
QUICK CASH LOANS

MORE 'WALIS TINGTING' CASES

Joey Marquez wants 8 other graft raps junked

By Jocelyn R. Uy

APPARENTLY SPOOKED BY THE Sandiganbayan's guilty verdict on former Parañaque Mayor Joey Marquez, his lawyer yesterday moved to junk eight other cases of graft pending in another division in connection with his alleged purchase of overpriced broomsticks (*walis tingting*) in 1997.

In a 14-page demurrer to evidence filed with the antigraft court's Second Division, lawyer Noel Malaya pointed out that government lawyers have clearly failed in its duty to prove the necessity and the lack of public bidding in the procurement of the broomsticks.

"What evidence has the prosecution presented that there was no public bidding? None. As a matter of fact the prosecution has presented evidence that there was a personal canvass. This is itself evidence that bidding had been conducted," argued Malaya.

MARQUEZ: Guilty JOAN BONDOC

50 years in jail

The comedian-actor was meted with a jail term ranging from 30 to 50 years by the Fourth Division on Thursday after finding him guilty of buying 55,432 overpriced broomsticks worth P1.07 million between January 1996 and September 1997.

The court also ordered him to pay P462,708 representing the overpriced amount in the procurement of the broomsticks.

Three former Parañaque officials were also convicted of graft while two officials were acquitted along with a private respondent.

The eight pending graft cases in the Second Division involved more than 8,000 broomsticks worth over P120,000 which were allegedly procured without public bidding sometime in March 1997.

Same respondents

The same respondents were identified: Marquez; Silvestre de Leon, the city treasurer; Marilou Tanael, the city accountant; Ofelia Caunan, officer in charge of the city's general services office; Flocerfida Babida, city budget officer, and Ailyn Romea, chief of staff of the Office of the Mayor.

The six officials were accused of allegedly conspiring with private suppliers Ricardo Adriano and Realina Ty in entering into the "grossly disadvantageous" *walis tingting* deal.

In asking the court to junk the graft cases, Malaya also questioned the manner of gathering of evidence by the witness presented by the prosecution in proving that the broomsticks were overpriced.

The witness had submitted in evidence their purchase of broomsticks from five different supermarkets and price list quoted by the Las Piñas government and the Technical Services Office of the Commission on Audit.

"It is clear that the prosecution failed to present evidence to substantiate that the contracts entered into by the accused is grossly and manifestly disadvantageous to the government ... how can you even gather evidence when in the first place you do not have the evidence of the purchases made?" said Malaya.

CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM

The country's lowest year-round fares just got lower!

It's the lowest Go Fares ever! Book your trip as early as you can and get the lowest Cebu Pacific airfare. It really pays to plan ahead.

LOWEST YEAR-ROUND GO FARES

₱98 Cebu - Bacolod or Iloilo; Manila - Laoag or Legaspi

₱288 Cebu - Cagayan de Oro NEW!; Cebu - Clark, Davao, Kalibo (for Boracay!), Puerto Princesa or Zamboanga; Manila - Bacolod, Cebu, Dumaguete, Iloilo, Kalibo (for Boracay!), Puerto Princesa, Roxas, Tagbilaran or Tacloban; Davao - Zamboanga

₱688 Manila - Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Cotabato, Davao, Dipolog, General Santos or Zamboanga

₱1,499 Manila - Kuala Lumpur

₱1,999 Manila - Guangzhou, Macau, Taipei or Xiamen NEW!; Cebu - Hong Kong; Manila - Hong Kong

₱2,499 Davao - Hong Kong (via Cebu); Manila - Bangkok or Singapore; Cebu - Singapore

₱2,999 Manila - Shanghai NEW!; Manila - Jakarta (non-stop); Davao - Singapore (via Cebu)

Domestic fuel and insurance surcharges range from PHP 700 to PHP 1,150.
International fuel and insurance surcharges range from USD 20 to USD 44.

MOST DOMESTIC DESTINATIONS • MOST DOMESTIC FLIGHTS • MOST DOMESTIC ROUTES • NEWEST PLANES

Call (02) 70-20-888
or visit the Travel Agent nearest you.

One way fares/vice versa • Limited seats • Fares may not be available on all days and flights • Fares are exclusive of applicable fees, taxes, and surcharges

GO FARES CEBU PACIFIC It's time everyone flies.

SMART GOLD

SHOP SMART FROM AUGUST 30 to SEPTEMBER 2!

SMART Gold presents its 4-day sale.

Get big discounts on our biggest postpaid handset sale of the year!

Visit any SMART Wireless Center to avail of this great offer.
First come, first served!
Make sure you bring the following documents:
Valid ID, Proof of Billing, Financial Documents (COE or W2).
For details, call *888 through your SMART cellphone or 888-1111 via landline, or visit www.smart.com.ph

See flyers for details.
Promo runs from August 30 to September 2, 2007.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 4116. Series of 2007.

SMART THE POWER TO LEAD

Corrections

IN THE JULY 16 ISSUE, the article on Page D6 of the Lifestyle section—"Art of convalescence"—misstated the name of the author of the children's book "Ang Batang Maraming Bawal." The author's name is Fernando Gonzalez—not Ferdinand Gonzales.

* * *

IN THE AUG. 31 ISSUE, a front-page article—"'Walis tingting' sweeps 'Tsong' to jail for 50 years"—misstated the cost of more than 55,000 brooms bought by Parañaque City from 1996 to 1997. The brooms cost P1.07 million—not P1.07.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City, fax Nos. 897-47-93/94; e-mail address: daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to Lorna Kalaw Tirol, readers' advocate, e-mail address: readersadvocate@inquirer.com. ph or fax Nos. 897-47-93/94, Attn: Readers Advocate. Her phone number is 897-8808 Local 342.

INTERESTED IN A CAREER CHANGE TO ACCOUNTING?

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA

The University of Newcastle, Australia is a comprehensive, international university which is ranked in the top 10 research Universities in Australia, is among the top 60 Universities in the Asia Pacific region and is ranked in the top 200 Universities in the world.

The University offers a broad range of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees including Applied Finance, Business, Business Administration, Commerce, Economics, Human Resource Management, International Business, Marketing, and Professional Accounting.

You're invited to attend an **Information Session on Master of Professional Accounting** (MPAc) with Mr Michael Seamer from the Faculty of Business and Law, the University of Newcastle, Australia. The MPAc is accredited by CPA Australia and The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA). Completion of the program will qualify graduates for associate membership in CPA Australia. Two (2) full tuition fee merit-based scholarships are available (conditions apply).

Discover the career opportunities that could open for you in the Philippines and overseas

Saturday 8 September 2007, 2PM
Security Caseroom , AIM Conference Centre, Benavidez Street corner Trasierra, Legaspi Village, Makati City

For Further Inquiries or to book, contact IDP Philippines Office on 02 816 0755 local 104, 109 or 110 or email info.manila@idp.com.
For information about the comprehensive range of study options to University of Newcastle, visit www.international.newcastle.edu.au

idp

A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY

ENTERTAINMENT IN THE FRONT

'Komiks' for soldiers in combat vs bandits

By Jerry E. Esplanada

WHEN THE FIVE NEW MASS-MARket Carlo J. Caparas "komiks" titles hit the streets two weeks from now, an undisclosed number of copies will be shipped to soldiers fighting Abu Sayyaf bandits and Moro rebels in Mindanao.

Thanks to, among others, a soldiers' welfare group and families and friends of Marines killed in battle.

"You can't discount the entertainment value of the komiks. It's also the least-costly form of entertainment and source of information," said J. Mario Santana of the Kapatiran ng Kaanak at Kaibigan ng mga Kawal (Kapatiran).

Santana (not related to popular komiks illustrator Mar Santana) said they were coordinating with another soldiers' welfare group to ensure the project's success.

"Komiks and other reading materials can help our soldiers pass the time, fill stretches of downtime after fevered moments of combat ... We're looking forward to seeing komiks in local newsstands again," said Santana, a part-time real estate agent.

5 new titles

Five new komiks titles—Tagalog Komiks, Gwapo Komiks, Super Funny Komiks, Pilipino Klasiks and OFW Super Stories—will be available in newsstands starting Sept. 14. Each title costs P10 per issue.

The classic, mass-market komiks variety had earlier made Caparas the "King of Komiks."

Caparas and movie-producer wife Donna Villa said they were happy about the development.

Caparas, who has written over 800 komiks novels, said komiks, as a literacy instrument, "can help us reach out to Filipinos in the entire archipelago."

He noted that the komiks world teems not only with folk heroes and heroines but also talking horses, birds and sea creatures, among others.

"Many of them are so detached from reality, if not outright weird. But in most cases, there's the Pinoy belief that good always triumphs over evil and that miracles happen because there's God we can depend on which is very positive," he said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo had earlier joined Caparas, Villa and National Commission on Culture and the Arts executive director Cecile Guidote-Alvarez in the media launch of the new komiks titles.

The NCCA sponsored several activities that Caparas spearheaded, such as the Komiks Congress and the Komiks Caravan, a nationwide tour aimed at reviving the komiks industry with seminar-workshops for budding komiks writers and artists.

Instructional aid

The Department of Education is also eyeing komiks as instructional materials in its special literacy program for the 12 million-plus out-of-school youth and adults, many of whom are illiterates.

Director Carol Guerrero of the agency's Bureau of Alternative Learning System (Bals) said they would love to see folk tales, children's stories and other stories with local color in komiks form.

"That would be good. But funds are not available right now," Guerrero said.

DepEd Secretary Jesli A. Lapus said they "have been giving [Bals] unprecedented push. We've succeeded in more than doubling its budget but funding remains a problem considering the magnitude of program requirements and other items in the education budget."

On the komiks titles some groups plan to donate to the Bals, Guerrero said they would "first evaluate their content and see if they are appropriate for our literacy program."

Push for 'hudhud'

Alvarez, meanwhile, strongly believes the komiks genre can help make the (Ifugao epic) "hudhud" a household word.

"Many Pinoys are probably more familiar with the Indian epics Mahabharata and the Ramayana and the Greek poems Iliad and the Odyssey than our very own hudhud. That is really sad," said Alvarez, also presidential culture and arts adviser.

She added that both the Mahabharata and the Ramayana already have komiks versions. "Here, we have Dr. Jose Rizal's Noli Me Tangere and El Felibusterismo, as well as Balagtas' Florante at Laura and the Ibong Adarna, among other masterpieces of Filipino literature, in komiks form."

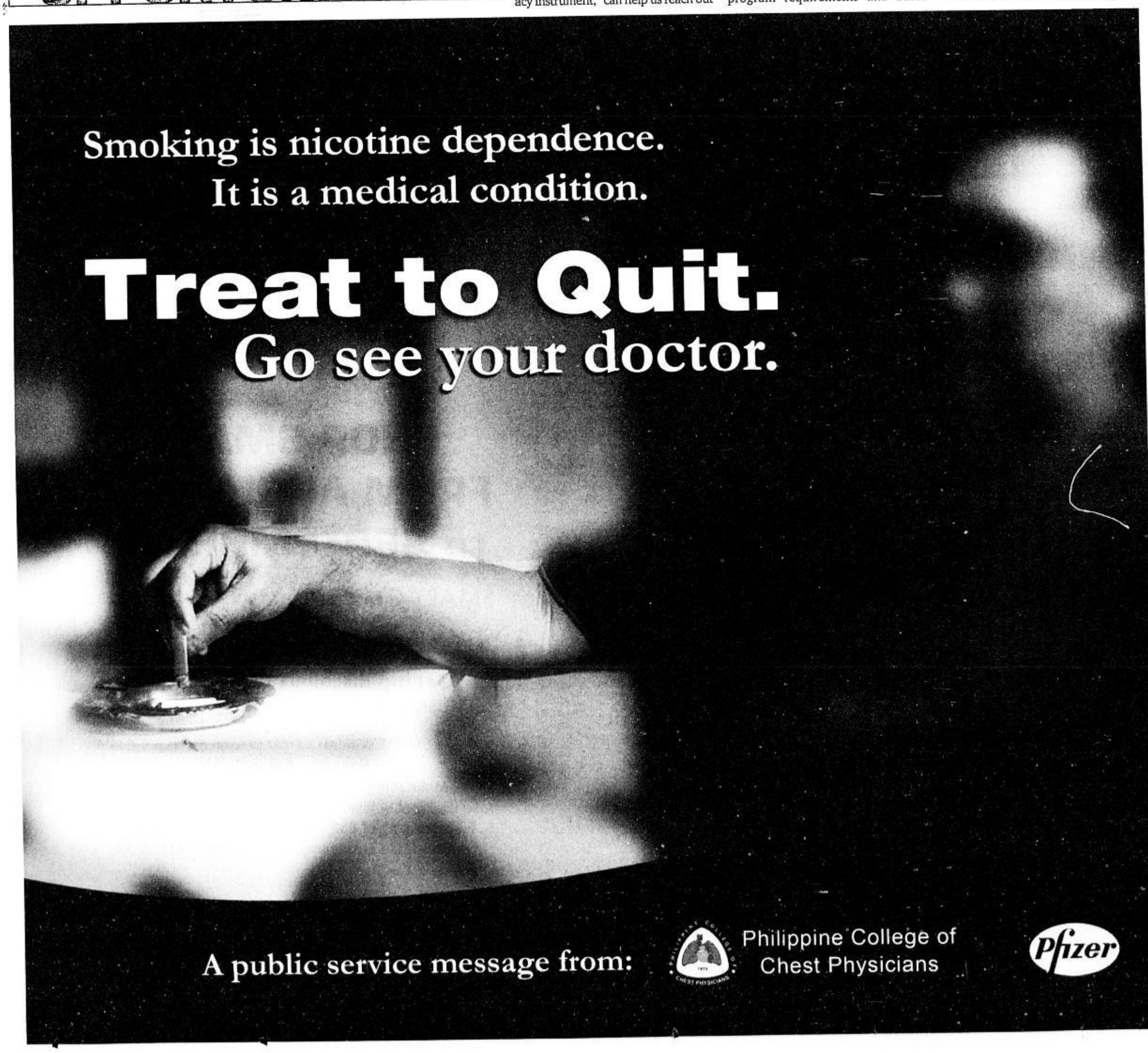
Heritage of humanity

Alvarez said that as early as 2001, hudhud had been named by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) as one of the world's 19 "masterpieces of the oral and intangible heritage of humanity."

Hudhud literally means story. But it is not merely a story but a manner of chanting a story.

The hudhud is chanted only during harvest and weeding time in the Ifugao rice fields, during wakes and *bogwa* (bone washing) ceremonies for the dead, mainly for entertainment and to ease the tedious work in the field and the monotony of wakes.

The National Museum calls hudhud a "national cultural treasure."



Troops to pursue Abu Sayyaf despite Ramadan

By Christine Avendaño

MILITARY OPERATIONS WILL still be mounted against Abu Sayyaf bandits in Sulu and Basilan even during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan which begins on Sept.15, according to newly appointed Defense Secretary Gilbert Teodoro Jr.

Teodoro, a three-term congressman who took over the defense department this month, also said two engineering battalions would be deployed in Basilan to start the "humanitarian offensive" directed by President Macapagal-Arroyo that would coincide with the military offensive.

Around 100 people had been killed in fighting in Sulu and Basilan since mid-July.

"As a policy, we cannot stop the operations," Teodoro said, adding that it would be up to ground commanders to consider cultural sensitivities when deciding to attack.

"When and where the operations will be conducted are up to the commanders but we cannot unilaterally go above their heads and stop it," Teodoro told reporters.

"But I'm not going to even suggest a stop in the operations or to go above the judgment of the Chief of Staff.. and the commanders," the defense chief said after attending a conferment ceremony for National Defense College of the Philippines graduates held in Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City.

The "humanitarian" offensive involved the construction of roads and other development projects in Basilan, he said, as he noted that the deployment of the military engineers would be the "first time that a deployment of this magnitude has been made there under hostile conditions."

The military renewed its offensive against the Abu Sayyaf in both Sulu and Basilan following the July 10 ambush of Marine soldiers in Basilan, which resulted in the death of 14 Marines, 10 of whom were beheaded and mutilated.

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front admitted it staged the ambush of the Marines but denied beheading or mutilating the bodies of the soldiers.

A panel set up jointly by the government and the MILF concluded that it was the Abu Sayyaf who beheaded some of the Marine soldiers after witnesses identified the attackers as ASG members.

The military offensives in Basilan resulted in the death of 15 more Marine soldiers following a raid in an ASG camp in Ungkaya Pukan. In Sulu, 27 soldiers were killed in a series of military offensives and an ASG ambush in towns the province last month.

Although the military had been pouring more resources into the fight against Islamic militants, Teodoro said the government still considered communist rebel group the New People's Army (NPA) the biggest long-term security threat.

Unlike the Muslim insurgency, which rages only in Mindanao, the 7,000-member NPA is dispersed across 69 of 81 provinces and regularly engages soldiers and police in tit-for-tat attacks. *With a report from Reuters*

Puno says no to relief of Bulacan police chief

INTERIOR SECRETARY RONALDO PUNO yesterday junked calls by top officials of Bulacan province for the relief of provincial police director Senior Supt. Asher Dolina for his alleged failure to curb criminality and maintain peace and order in the province.

Puno warned Bulacan officials that they could be charged with violating the law if they persist with their call to replace Dolina.

Coming into Dolina's defense, Puno said he has ordered the embattled police officer to stay put in Bulacan.

He said the Philippine National Police put Dolina in Bulacan to implement its "peace and order programs" and that it was the duty of local government officials to support him.

"A withdrawal of support of a legitimate peace and order program is tantamount to dereliction of their duties," Puno said.

Dolina, the former chief of the National Capital Region- Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, has been chief of the Bulacan police for five months now.

Top Bulacan officials led by Gov. Joselito Mendoza and 21 Bulacan mayors yesterday called for Dolina's dismissal, saying the incidence of robberies, killings, car thefts and illegal gambling, like video karera, had risen under Dolina's watch.

They also filed yesterday petition at the Malolos Regional Trial Court in an attempt to force PNP chief Oscar Calderon to sack Dolina and reinstate Senior Supt. Jesus Gatchalian, whom Dolina replaced as Bulacan police chief.

"This is the point where we believe court intervention is needed," Eugenio Resurreccion, the provincial legal officer, said.

But Puno said Gatchalian would never be returned to Bulacan. He added that it was "wrong" for local officials to pick their police commanders.

"Our police are not their errand boys. They are supposed to be partners in public service. The era of private armies is over," he said. *Alcuin Papa and DJ Yap*

Spanish-inspired community in Quezon City...

Don't miss our GRAND OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, September 2.

Purchase your very own unit with prices starting below

P700,000

Phase I ready for occupancy.

Now selling Phase 2.

San Benissa

GARDEN VILLAS

LICENSE TO SELL #16759

PHINMA PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP.

City Living Made Easy

*Prices & specs subject to change without prior notice

HOW TO GET THERE: From EDSA northbound, turn right to either Fast, Quezon or North Avenues, go straight until you reach the Quezon City Elliptical Circle. Turn right to Commonwealth Avenue and drive straight until you reach the unpaved portion. For commuters, take Jordan Plains Subdivision jeepney & get off at the gate.

812-9554 • 813-2126 • 0917-812-PPHC (7742)

Boomland Realty: 939-7338 • Human Shelter Realty: 475-4438

TREES FOR LIFE

'Ramons' in uniform get their hands dirty

By TJ Burgonio

SOME 100 ARMY OFFICERS and men got their hands dirty planting tree saplings into freshly dug holes at a section of the parade grounds in Camp Aguinaldo early yesterday morning.

The soldiers joined former Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. and a gaggle of personalities at the launch of a nationwide move to plant 100,000 trees in memory of the late President Ramon Magsaysay.

The uniformed men and civilians, all named after the "most popular" President in history, planted 100 trees to mark the late Magsaysay's 100th birth anniversary yesterday.

"There's no more important and essential part of the program than the Armed Forces of the Philippines itself, an agent of change, volunteering to be part of this," said Magsaysay, the senator, in his remarks at the grandstand overlooking the parade ground.

The activity is part of the "Trees for Life," a joint project of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and Green Army to plant 20 million trees across the country between July and November this year.

Maj. Ramon Zagala, who admitted to having employed Magsaysay's strategy in dealing with insurgents in the Zambales province, said he felt "honored" to plant trees in memory of the late President.

Green spot

"Camp Aguinaldo is one of the few spots of green in Quezon City. It's very timely that we are planting more trees here [so we could] make a big difference for the future," said Zagala on behalf of the soldiers.

Magsaysay served as defense secretary before he won the presidential elections in 1954.

The DENR, Green Army, Mother Earth Foundation and their partners have set out to plant 100,000 trees on Mt. Pinatubo in Zambales, Mt. Manunggal in Cebu and other areas associated with the late President.

This will be completed on March 17, 2008 in time for Magsaysay's 51st death anniversary.

"Planting and nurturing 100,000 [trees] would therefore be an apt way to celebrate the life of a great father of the Filipino nation," said Energy Secretary Angelo Reyes, who as environment secretary, conceived the Trees for Life with Green Army.

Road to immortality

He said he hopes this would bring the late President "further up the road to immortality."

Brig. Gen. Alfredo Cayton, head of the Headquarters Service Command who mobilized the soldiers for the tree-planting, said this portion of the parade ground would be converted into a "mini-forest."

"It will be nurtured by our soldiers," he said in an interview. "Protecting the environment is one of the programs of the Armed Forces, and we'll be doing the same thing in other AFP camps."

After planting a fire tree sapling, former Air Force commanding general and INQUIRER columnist Ramon Farolan Jr. agreed that the saplings, once they grow taller, would enhance the view of the parade ground.

Giving life back

"I'm sure when the trees start to grow they will present a very green background for any activities that would take place here," said Farolan in an interview.

Several personalities arrived at 5 a.m. at the military headquarters in Quezon City for the program and an hour later, crossed the soggy parade ground to plant trees at the other end.

"This is uplifting. It's like giving life back," said glass sculptor Ramon Orlina in an interview

"It's a privilege to be part of this environmental event in the light of the destruction that has been happening around the world and in this country," said Ramon Jose Cruz, president and CEO of Questmedia.

Cruz's father J.V. Cruz served as Magsaysay's press secretary.

The Ramons

The others who turned up for the early morning activity were Ramon Garcia, Ramon Rodriguez, Ramona Josefina Rodriguez, Ramon Jose Rodriguez, Ramon Macapagal, Ramon Dizon, Ramon Sanda III, Ramon Uy, Ramon Devora, Jose Ramon Ramos, Ramona Lisa Rodriguez-Ramos, Ramon Oca and Ramon Diaz, among others.

Sa pinakasulit na Worldwidest Services, mas dama niya ang init ng 'yong pagmamahal.

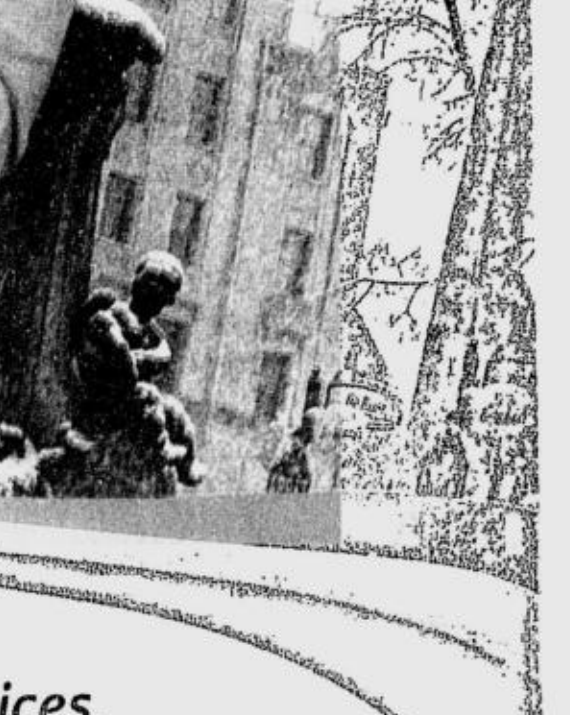
P 0.17 Kada Segundo IDD* para sa short and sweet calls.
Dial 12800 (country code)(area code)(phone no.)

P 7.50 per minute IDD para naman sa mahabang kwentuhan.
Dial 12808 (country code)(area code)(phone no.) for US and Canada**
Dial 12801 (country code)(mobile no.) for SingTel Mobile, CSL Mobile, Maxis Mobile, Taiwan Mobile, Optus Mobile, SK Telecom

International Text para tuluy-tuloy ang palitan ng text.
Just text + (country code)(mobile no.)

*Promo until September 13, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3372, Series of 2007.
**From 10PM to 5:59AM

Globe™



© 2007 Globe Telecom, Inc

Quiet please: Bar exams ongoing

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE USUALLY ROWDY PRELUDE TO THE bar exams is expected to be toned down this year with streaking, Ati-atihan, bands and other "fiesta-like" activities prohibited in the perimeter of the venue at any time on the day or on the eve of the tests, under the Supreme Court's new guidelines.

Justice Adolfo Azcuna also said noisy activities are not allowed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the area around the testing venue during the four Sundays of the tests. "Improper or unbecoming" conduct are also banned, including the fiesta-like activities.

According to Azcuna, who chairs the Supreme Court Committee on the 2007 Bar Examinations, the standard to be followed in the conduct of the exams is that of a court hearing.

"The examinations are in the nature of a court proceeding and therefore the appropriate conduct to be observed at or near the said proceedings is the same as that at or near a court hearing," he said in a press conference.

He also said those who violate the guidelines would be sanctioned. He said the deans of the law schools have already been informed about the guidelines.

The first day of the bar exams is usually marked by raucous cheers from the supporters of the examinees, which include schoolmates, alumni, fraternity/sorority brothers/sisters and their own friends and relatives.

HIGH COST OF POWER

Solon delivers children's story as privilege speech

By Norman Bordadora

HOW DOES ONE TAKE UP A COMplex issue like the high cost electricity and engage the attention and interest of a passive public?

By presenting the roles of such agencies as the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. and the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market in a manner that a 7-year-old would understand.

Like in a children's story, as Bukidnon Rep. Teofisto Guingona III, a member of the House minority "shadowing" the government's energy sector, demonstrated in a privilege speech late Monday.

In Guingona's view, Psalm, the government agency responsible for disposing of state power assets, and the National Power Corp., the state-owned power generator, are the major causes of the country's high electricity costs instead of being the factors for the lowering of power prices as mandated by the Electricity and Power Industry Reform Act of 2000 (Epira).

Open access

The congressman said President Macapagal-Arroyo's proposal to allow open access—a system under which electricity end-users can choose to buy electricity from any generating plant—with just 40 percent of Napocor's assets privatized will only result in price-manipulation by only a handful of power industry players.

"To better understand the issue, let's listen to a story," Guingona said.

In his story, Psalm and Napocor were portrayed as a greedy trader named Salmo.

Salmo has three sons—Sual, Pagbilao and Ilijan—who Guingona said represented the three huge power plants controlled by Psalm and Napocor.

"Once upon a time, the Arroyo administration created Salmo. Salmo is tasked to generate electricity. Today, he generates 74 percent of the country's electricity. Salmo is lazy so he lets his three sons, Sual, Pabilao and Ilijan to generate the electricity and sell them to the market," he said.

Policeman

Guingona said the market has no manager but a policeman named Ersi, or the Energy Regulatory Commission, was placed to make sure Salmo and his sons didn't sell electricity at exorbitant rates.

"Salmo and his sons are afraid of Ersi," Guingona said.

Guingona said a market manager Wesmo, the Wholesale Electricity Spot Market, was later put in place.

"[Sual, Pagbilao and Ilijan] try to get their way with Wesmo. One day, Wesmo implemented a rule in the market: the one with the lowest price will prevail. In this way, the consumers are assured of the best bargain," Guingona said.

"The three sons of Salmo will compete with one another; they have to come up with the lowest price," he added.

But on Aug. 30, 2006, Wesmo noticed that the prices being offered by Salmo's three sons were suspiciously high.

"The selling process were all the same—P10,000 per megawatt..... Wesmo caught them conniving in order to 'fix' the prices. Salmo and his three sons were caught red-handed, guilty of price-fixing," Guingona said.

Price manipulation

Guingona said that only a month ago, Psalm demanded that Wesmo pay P9 billion for the price of electricity sold in September and October 2006 "in spite of the fact that they were caught by Wesmo dictating and manipulating the price."

"If Salmo [or Psalm-Napocor] would be allowed to collect the P9 billion, this would translate into an increase of P2 per consumer. The administration of Ms Arroyo says that their goal is to reduce the price of electricity but look at what they are doing," Guingona said.

Guingona said that in her July State of the Nation Address, Ms Arroyo asked for open access in electricity.

"Open access means that end-users of electricity can choose from any generating plant from which it will buy electricity," Guingona said.

"This means that SM Megamall can purchase its electricity from the Masinloc plant in Zambales while the Robinson's Mall in Ortigas can purchase its electricity from the Sual plant based in Pangasinan," he said.

Great idea

"It seems like a great idea! The buyer has the right to choose and shop for the lowest electricity rates," he added.

But two requirements of the Epira for open access have yet to be met, he said.

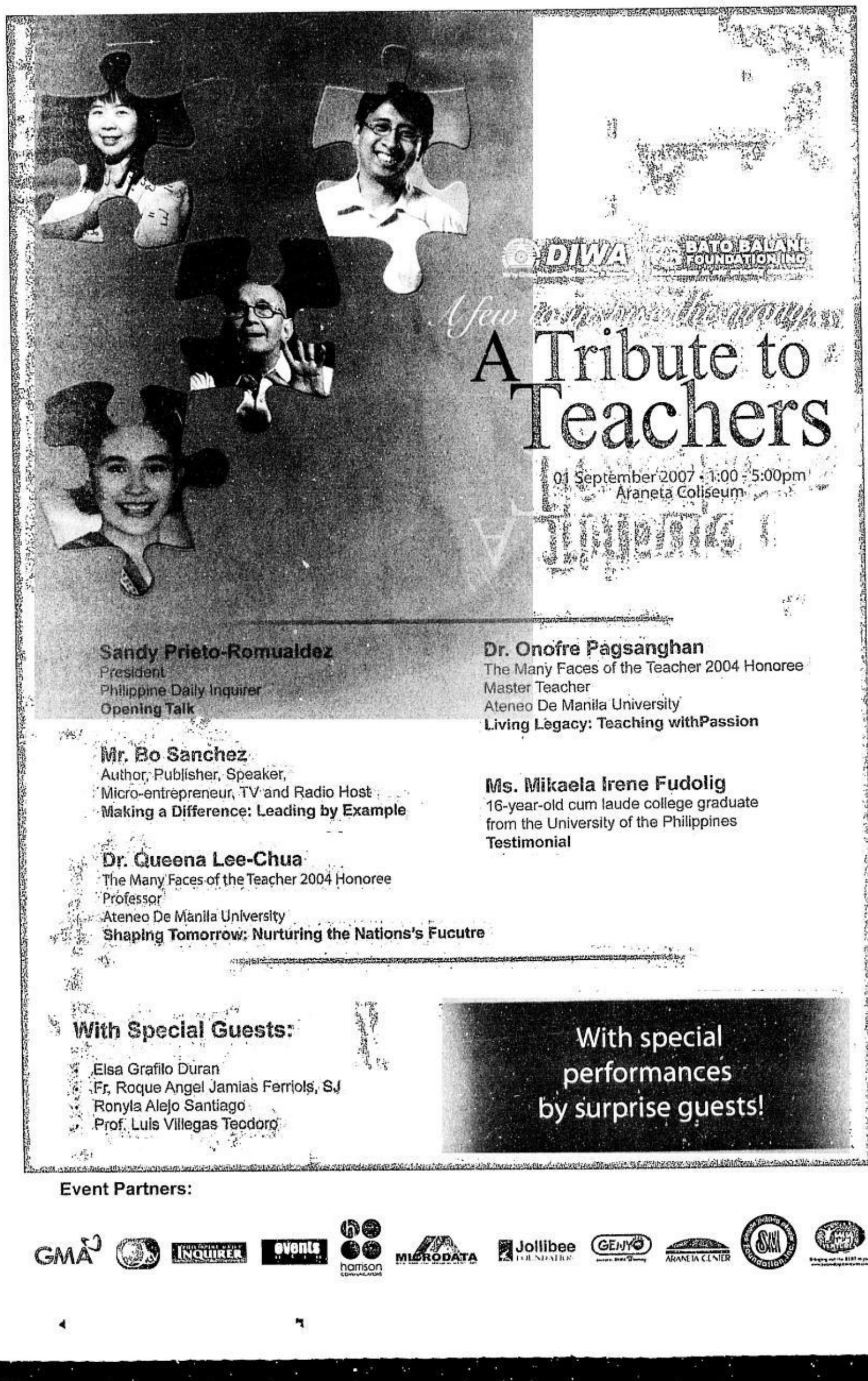
These include the privatization of at least 70 percent of the total power generating assets of Napocor in Luzon and in the Visayas and the transfer of at least 70 percent of the total energy output of power plants to independent power producer administrators.

Guingona said the government has proposed the lowering of the privatization threshold from 70 percent to 30 percent so that open access can be implemented sooner.

Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel Arroyo, chair of the House committee on energy and a son of the President, has filed a bill proposing amendments to the Epira, one of which is the lowering of the threshold to 30 percent.

"I think this proposal is flawed. This will perpetuate the monopoly of Psalm/Napocor-owned electric power generating plants," Guingona said.

"For open access to work, there must be free, fair competition among the power plants conducted under a level playing field. This is not the case now, and it will get worse when open access is permitted when less than 70 percent of the electric power generating plants have been privatized," he added.



THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, September 1, 2007
21st Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Thes 4:9-11

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said to his disciples, "Imagine someone who, before going abroad, summoned his servants to entrust his property to them. He gave five talents of silver to one, then two to another, and one to a third, each one according to his ability; and he went away. He who received five talents went at once to do business with the money and gained another five. The one who received two did the same and gained another two. But the one with one talent dug a hole and hid his master's money.

"After a long time, the master of those servants returned and asked for a reckoning. The one who received five talents came with another five talents, saying: 'Lord, you entrusted me with five talents, but see I have gained five more with them.' The master answered: 'Very well, good and faithful servant, since you have been faithful in a few things, I will entrust you with much more. Come and share the joy of your master.' Then the one who had two talents came and said: 'Lord, you entrusted me with two talents; I have two more which I gained with them.' The master said: 'Well, good and faithful servant, since you have been faithful in little things, I will entrust you with much more. Come and share the joy of your master.'

"Finally, the one who had received one talent came and said: 'Master, I know that you are an exacting man. You reap what you have not sown and gather what you have not invested. I was afraid, so I hid your money in the ground. Here, take what is yours.' But his master replied: 'Wicked and worthless servant, (you know that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not invested. Then you should have deposited my money in the bank, and you would have given it back to me with interest on my return.

"'Therefore, take the talent from him, and give it to the one who has ten. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who are unproductive, even what they have will be taken from them. As for that useless servant, throw him out into the dark where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Commentary

We are to love one another—and it is God who teaches us how, in Jesus, in the word of the Lord, in community. Make it a point of honor to remain at peace, to work at making the community more whole and holy, and to take care of everyone as an example to those who are not believers. No one is to want for anything. This is how we are to live as Jesus' company.

We are told the parable of the man who goes on a journey and gives away a great deal of money to be disbursed according to the abilities of each: 10,000, 5,000 and 1,000. He is away a long time and when he returns, there is an accounting. Those who invested wisely get more power and management and the one who just keeps the 1,000 tells the master he is a hard man and reaps what he doesn't sow (obviously this is not Jesus' Father, but the way the world works). And the servant is thrown out. This is not about making it in the church/parish but whether or not we actually belong to God as his servants caring for others or whether we still belong firmly to the world and are making it among the corporations and nations. Where are we rooted really?

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: ccl@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications) & http://www.claretphilippines.org (Claretian Missionaries in the Philippines)

PCGG sees compromise deal on P130-B coco levy

By Jerry E. Esplanada

PCGG CHAIR CAMILO SABIO HAS expressed confidence that the Presidential Commission on Good Government will be able to work out a compromise agreement "within the year" with several stakeholder groups of the coconut levy funds.

The deal calls for the government to organize the coco levy funds, now estimated to reach P130 billion, into a foundation where all the stakeholders will be represented, Sabio told ANC television late Thursday.

Sabio said the main feature of the compromise agreement is the creation of a foundation that would initially be controlled by government. It will have 15 board members, eight of whom would be government nominees and seven nominees of coconut farmers' groups.

But as the coconut farmers get better organized, the government will gradually cede control of the foundation to representatives of the sector, he said.

SABIO

Finer points

Last March, the PCGG said the Department of Finance was working out the finer points of the compromise agreement, although the main idea of setting up the foundation has been agreed upon in principle.

The DoF is expected to complete the compromise deal proposal soon, after which it will be presented to the various stakeholder groups for ratification.

The coconut levy was a forced tax imposed on coconut farmers from 1973 to 1982 by the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos who appointed his close associate, businessman Eduardo Cojuangco Jr., to administer the levy.

According to the PCGG—the agency tasked with the recovery of the ill-gotten wealth of Marcos, his family and associates,—the monopoly of the coconut industry through Cojuangco was one of the methods by which the Marcos ill-gotten assets were acquired and safeguarded.

The PCGG earlier sequestered a number of firms associated with Cojuangco, most, if not all, of which involved the coco levy funds.

They include the Coconut Industry Investment Fund (CIIF), a group of 14 holding companies owned by six oil mills that held the assets acquired by Marcos and his cronies with the use of the coco levy funds.

The PCGG claims that Cojuangco, with a number of associates, used the levy funds to buy shares in San Miguel Corp., the United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB) and various coconut trading firms, coconut oil mills and export firms.

Acquired assets

These acquired assets were not placed in the name of the Philippine Coconut Authority, the government agency tasked to develop the coconut industry, but under the CIIF, which was administered by the UCPB.

According to Sabio, the foundation will initially manage the government's 27-percent stake in San Miguel Corp., Southeast Asia's largest food and beverage firm, which were acquired with coco levy funds. Cojuangco now chairs the SMC board.

At present market prices, this SMC stake is worth more than P32 billion.

The proposed compromise agreement will deal solely with the 27-percent block of shares under the name of the CIIF.

In 2001, the Supreme Court ruled that the coco levy funds were prima facie public funds. Two years later, the Sandiganbayan declared the funds as "conclusively public funds" held by government in trust for the country's coconut farmers.

After the high tribunal and antigraft court rulings, control of the CIIF and the 27-percent block of SMC shares went to the PCGG.

But until the court decisions become final, the assets remain under government sequestration.

Sa G-WebCall, laging umaapaw ang mga I love you ninyo.

Kahit nasa gitna ka ng pinakamalawak na dagat, madali nang ma-reach si labs sa G-Web call.

Walang kasing tipid, walang kasing sulit dahil P7.50 lang tumawag via internet (ng barko) to any Globe Cellphone.

To activate, text GWEB ON to 2865

Or visit http://www.g-webcall.com for more information

Calls will be charged at P7.50/min to your Globe Postpaid bill.

Panalo ang pamilyang OFW sa Worldwidest Services ng Globe.

Globe™

©2007 Globe Telecom, Inc.

Joma ordered held for 2 more weeks by Dutch court

From page A1

itentiary Facility in The Hague—the same facility once used by Adolf Hitler's Nazis to detain Dutch resistance fighters during World War II.

Yugoslavia strongman Slobodan Milosevic, who was tried for war crimes, was also jailed in the facility.

Sison was arrested Tuesday in the town of Utrecht, where he has lived for 20 years. Dutch police swept through the office of the NDF and through at least seven other apartments, seizing computer hard drives, discs, files and books and questioning his aides. No one else was arrested.

He was arrested on charges that he had ordered the murder of comrades Romulo Kintanar and Arturo Tabara.

Demonstrators demanded Sison's freedom as the closed hearing was under way.

Dutch authorities have declined to disclose the nature of the evidence against Sison, but said it originated both in the Netherlands and the Philippines.

Sison's wife, Julie, said she feared for her husband's health in prison, and was concerned he could die in his cell.

"I have not been allowed to contact him, and I do not trust the doctors in prison," she told The Associated Press.

She displayed bruises on her arm which she said she sustained when Dutch police raided her home and prevented her from calling a lawyer.

Protesters wore white headbands bearing the slogan "Free Joma," using Sison's nickname. Bands blared music as the demonstrators chanted anti-fascist, pro-socialist slogans. Dutch-based leftist groups waved banners of solidarity.

Interviewed on dzMM, Kenney noted that the New People's Army, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, which Sison founded, was on the US list of terrorist organizations, as well as on the European Union's list.

"We have a long relationship with the government of The Netherlands on law enforcement collaboration as we do with the Philippines, so if we would be asked or if there are some ways we could be helpful, I'm sure we would," Kenney said.

RALLY BEHIND JOMA. Outside the court in The Hague, supporters of the founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines hold a demonstration. AP

She said the crackdown on the NPA and other terrorist organizations by US allies was "always a good thing."

Kenney also said the arrest of Sison would certainly reduce the NPA's ability to "terrorize" the Filipino people.

Philippine officials have admitted aiding Dutch authorities in the case of Sison.

In a television interview, spokesperson Wim de Bruin of the National Prosecutor's Office in The Netherlands said the investigation into Sison's alleged illegal activities in The Netherlands started even before the murders of Kintanar and Tabarra.

De Bruin said posting bail was not a possibility under the Dutch criminal justice system.

Consular help

The Department of Foreign Affairs said the prospects of repatriating Sison to the Philippines was nil in the absence of an extradition treaty between the Philippines and the Netherlands.

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said that Sison would be provided consular assistance, including a lawyer, just like any Filipino facing charges in another country.

Sison and other Filipino communist personalities have been living in exile in The Netherlands since the 1980s.

Sison's Filipino lawyer said that up to now, neither the Philippine government nor the widows of Kintanar and Tabara had filed murder charges against Sison.

'Case weak'

This is a sign that they have no evidence against Sison to link him to the killings, lawyer Romeo Capulong said in a phone interview, citing checks made by his group with the Quezon City prosecutor's office and regional trial courts.

Kintanar was killed on Jan. 23, 2003 while Tabara and his son-in-law Stephen Ong were shot dead on Sept. 26, 2004. Both attacks took place in Quezon City.

According to Capulong, the killings were cited as among the atrocities supposedly committed by Sison and 50 others in furtherance of rebellion. The rebellion case had been dismissed by the Supreme Court.

Same testimony

Capulong said this could also impair the credibility of the two widows, Gloria Kintanar and Veronica Tabara, should they appear before The Hague court to testify against Sison.

Capulong said he expected the widows to echo the statements they made in affidavits that were among the 392 documents submitted in the rebellion case that was dismissed on June 1.

According to him, the widows concluded in their affidavits that Sison, as head of the CPP central committee, was responsible for the killings, but offered no specific details.

Diversionary move

"These will be substantially the same testimony that they will make before the judge. In my opinion, these are, as the Supreme Court said, insufficient to establish probable cause, much less guilt beyond reasonable doubt," Capulong said.

On the eve of Sison's appearance before Dutch judges, around 50 people gathered Thursday near the Dutch national monument on Dam Square in Amsterdam to protest Sison's arrest.

Some held signs demanding his release, while others carried photographs of dissidents they said have been abducted by President Macapagal-Arroyo's government.

Members of the Dutch Communist Party and other groups waved flags and carried banners in a show of support.

"We condemn Sison's arrest, which the government of the Philippines is using to divert attention from its human rights violations," said Chico Taguba, spokesperson for the Netherlands-Philippines Solidarity Movement.

10,000 miles away

He has been denied asylum in the Netherlands, but courts have ruled he cannot be extradited to the Philippines.

Jalandoni, chair of the international arm of the NDF, an umbrella organization of far-left Philippine groups, said that if prosecutors were hoping to prove Sison still had effective control over armed communist rebels in the Philippines, they were "out of touch with reality."

Sison "does not give orders to people over 10,000 miles away," he said. "He has been out of the county for 20 years, out of the leadership (of armed groups) for over 30 years."

Dutch national prosecutors have declined to elaborate on the evidence against Sison, but De Bruin said it was collected by teams of researchers in both the Netherlands and the Philippines.

The case will be tried in the Netherlands, since Sison allegedly ordered the murders from here, De Bruin said.

Reports from Cynthia D. Balana, TJ Burgonio, AP and AFP

Joma always aware of cops; they were next-door neighbors

From page A1

look out of their window. They raided his home and arrested him on allegations he had ordered the killing of former Filipino rebel leaders Romulo Kintanar and Arturo Tabara in the Philippines.

Little did Sison know on that April day that Dutch and Philippine authorities were already working quietly to get him.

The 68-year-old founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines said that after 20 years in the Netherlands, "I'm settled psychologically and politically ... [but not] economically."

Sison's benefits were taken away by the Dutch government in 2002 after the United States put him on its list of foreign terrorists. He said the Dutch government withdrew all his social benefits, living allowances, housing and health insurance.

A tinge of bitterness ran through Sison's voice as he recalled the loss of his benefits, during an interview over coffee and doughnuts in a three-story building rented by the NDF.

'Financing a terrorist'

When Sison spoke in Tagalog or Ilocano, he sounded like he had never been away from home.

"I look settled economically ... but those people you see living near the river banks, they may be wearing rags yet they earn more money than I do," he joked.

"I'm still decently dressed ... I manage to get by on debts and donations from friends," he said. "When my wife had our house transferred to her name, I kidded her, 'You will be accused of financing a terrorist'."

A rebel for a guide

Sison acted as our guide in a walking tour of Utrecht. Our group was joined later by NDF monitoring committee chair Fidel Agcaoili, and Aldo Gonzalez, an NDF staffer.

Sison described his life in Utrecht as simple.

"I wake up between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. because I sleep late; between 2 and 4 a.m. *Nasanay na ako dyan nung very active ako sa pagbibigay ng interview sa radio* (I got used to that when I was very active in giving interviews on radio)," he said.

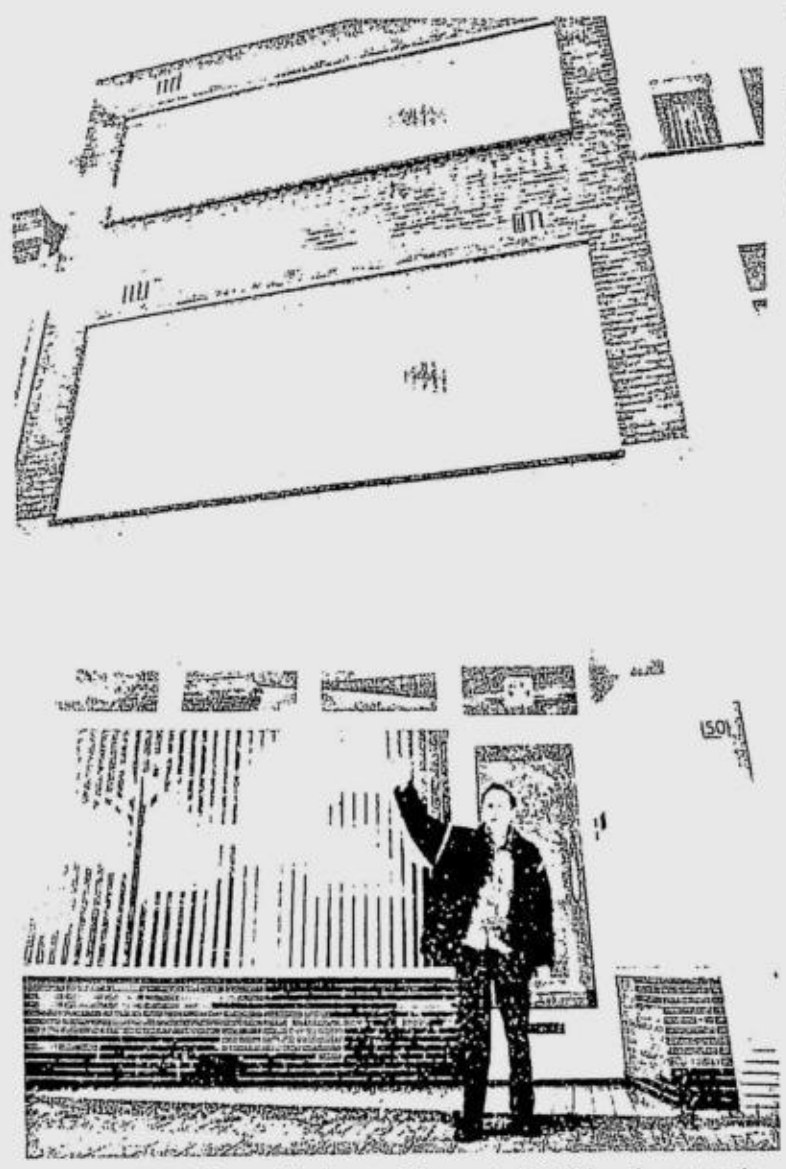
He rarely gives lectures now in universities here. Owing to the terrorist tag, he is not allowed to receive any honorarium, he said.

Moments with Ara

Still, he had moments of fun, as during the last Christmas holidays when a group of Filipinos—one of them Ara Mina—came by for a party.

Pictures of the communist visionary doing a dance number with the sultry actress became a source of glee for Philippine military propagandists.

Our day with Sison lasted nine hours, from midmorning until about 7 p.m.



JOSE MA. SISON stands in front of the rented NDF headquarters in Utrecht, Netherlands. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

In the afternoon, key NDF officials arrived, among them chief peace negotiator Luis Jalandoni, NDF member Connie Ledesma-Jalandoni, executive director Ruth de Leon, and Gonzalez.

Thoughts of home

They talked of current events at home, sounding very up to date. One of the topics that came up was the ambush of INQUIRER provincial correspondent Delfin Mallari.

Laughter rang through the room as Sison cracked jokes.

Asked if he had plans of returning to the Philippines, he said: "Of course! When the time comes. Let's just say if someone like (Chief Justice) Reynato Puno becomes president, or Loren Legarda or Jamby Madrigal."

That's possible, he said, laughing again.

Assassination target

However, Joma said his political enemies were actively engaged in character assassination and he feared being set up for a kill.

"I have been targeted for assassination a number of times," he claimed. "Recently, I have been receiving reports of plans to kill me by agents of the Arroyo regime."

"This is in line with the extrajudicial killings being perpetrated with impunity under the Arroyo regime," he said.

Charges never die

He said his enemies "are amazing for their mendacity and stupidity in repeating the lie that the CPP and I were responsible for the Plaza Miranda bombing."

He was referring to the grenade attack on a Liberal Party election rally in Manila nearly four decades ago, which then President Ferdinand Marcos quickly blamed on the communists.

"My enemies are also amazingly mendacious and stupid in blaming me for the revolutionary actions of the NPA despite the fact that I have been out of the Philippines for more than 20 years," Sison said.

Farewell handshakes

One of the cases still pending against Sison dealt with the execution of military spies within the NPA, whose supposed remains were dug up in Leyte.

In the evening, Filipino student scholars arrived. To a guitar accompaniment, they sang songs for the man they call "Joma."

Later, he also gave them a walking tour of the city, with him again acting as a guide.

Evening had fallen over the city, and it was time to catch our train.

He showed us to the stairway and we bade each other goodbye with handshakes and laughter, unsure when we would see him again—and where.

(The INQUIRER chief photographer was in the Netherlands last April to attend the World Press Photographers conference. From Amsterdam, he went to Utrecht to interview and take photos of Mr. Sison—Ed.)

Senators tell Gonzalez: Take permanent leave

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY: He had difficulty walking and taking his seat before the start of the joint meetings of the National Security Council, Cabinet and the Department of Budget and Management last Wednesday. LYN RILLON

From page A1

there are many who could [fill] his position."

The President designated Solicitor General Agnes Devanedera as officer-in-charge, in a concurrent capacity, of the Department of Justice effective today.

The 76-year-old Gonzalez said yesterday he might undergo dialysis after President Macapagal-Arroyo told him to go to the National Kidney and Transplant Institute and get himself checked out.

The chief executive also asked Gonzalez, through Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita, to go on leave for two months so his health would improve.

Dialysis?

However, Gonzalez said he would only take leave for one month because he did not want to be idle for a long time.

When asked if he has been undergoing dialysis, Gonzalez replied: "I might now, it's not yet sure," adding that it would depend on the doctors' analysis.

He said Ms Arroyo noticed his condition during a meeting last Wednesday.

"When I was in a Cabinet meeting, the President noticed that I had difficulty walking. She told Ermita to tell me that I should go on leave for as long as it's necessary to improve [my health]," Gonzalez said.

Even before Malacañang admitted that Gonzalez was sick, rumors of his quitting the Cabinet have been making the rounds since early this year.

On Thursday, the INQUIRER published a photograph of a frail-looking Gonzalez being helped to his chair by two aides during the National Security Council (NSC) meeting in the Palace.

A Cabinet member, who asked not to be named in deference to the President, said Ms Arroyo finally permitted the ailing justice secretary to go on leave upon seeing his condition during the NSC meeting.

"Ma'am, *payagan mo na* (please allow him)," said the Cabinet member.

Bleeding ulcer

Gonzalez said his bleeding ulcer, for which he was hospitalized earlier this month, led to his legs feeling weak.

"I think it affected my legs so my walking was difficult without any assistance," Gonzalez said.

He added that he only had difficulty with physical tasks.

He said he would continue to work while on leave, having instructed his staff that all important papers and matters should be sent to him.

"At one time, the President told me even she works in the hospital," Gonzalez said.

He said his condition was improving and although he was not in his office, he signed about 20 documents on Thursday.

He also said he intended to return to the Department of Justice as soon as he can.

Malacañang did not disclose Gonzalez's medical condition.

He was rushed to an undisclosed hospital on Aug. 3 due to a bleeding ulcer, but he denied rumors that he was in the intensive care unit.

At the time, he said he was fine and expected to be up and about soon.

Latest casualty

Gonzalez is the latest in the list of Cabinet officials who have fallen ill while working for a workaholic President, which includes then Executive Secretary Renato de Villa, his successor Alberto Romulo, then Presidential Management Staff chief Rigoberto Tiglao, National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, Presidential Management Staff head Cerge Remonde, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye and former Political Adviser Gabriel Claudio.

In June last year, Ms Arroyo herself was admitted to St. Luke's Medical Center for what doctors said was acute stomach pain. The following month, she returned to the hospital for treatment for flu.

The last Cabinet official who quit due to health reasons was political adviser Claudio, who had undergone spinal surgery on Aug. 8.

The 52-year-old Claudio underwent a surgical procedure called a decompressive laminectomy "to release entrapped spinal nerves" and an instrumented fusion "to stabilize the lower spine using titanium implants," said his twin brother, Dr. Rafael Claudio.

Previous surgeries

Claudio had previous surgeries in 1976 to correct the congenital scoliosis of the lumbar spine and in 1977 and 1978 for treatment of an ensuing chronic osteomylitis (bone infection).

Claudio initially asked for a one-month leave, but later resigned his post after his doctors said it would take four to six months "for the bone fusion to happen and mature."

The President accepted with regret the resignation of Claudio as presidential adviser for political affairs. She named National Security Adviser Secretary Norberto Gonzales as temporary replacement.

Salamat sa GCash, ang first bike niya, galing pang Hong Kong.

Pang-regalo, pang-tuition, pambayad sa bahay,
basta remittance, ang dali sa GCash.
Text GCash to 2882 for more information.

Panalo ang pamilyang OFW sa Worldwidest Services ng Globe.

Globe™

© 2007 Globe Telecom, Inc

Forex reserves, BOP surplus seen hitting records

By Doris C. Dumlao

ROBUST OVERSEAS FILIPINO remittances and foreign investments are expected to drive up the Philippines' foreign reserves and external payments account to record-high surpluses this year.

Despite a projected slowdown in exports and the dampening impact of the recent global financial market turmoil, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has targeted an all-time high gross international reserves (GIR) level of $30 billion and a balance of payments (BOP) surplus of $6.3 billion by yearend.

The revised projections marked a sharp upgrade from the BSP's earlier forecasts of $2.4-2.9 billion for the BOP and $26-26.6 billion for the GIR.

"This is due to the substantial surplus in the current account," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said in a press briefing yesterday.

The BOP measures the foreign exchange transactions between the domestic economy and the rest of the world. Any transaction which gives rise to a payment by a Philippine resident like importation or debt servicing is a deficit item in the BOP while any which gives rise to a receipt like borrowing, exporting or overseas Filipino worker (OFW) remittance is a surplus item.

On the other hand, the GIR is a key indicator of a country's ability to cover the foreign exchange requirements of the economy, consisting of the BSP's gross foreign currency holdings, gold reserves, foreign investments and special drawing rights from multilateral institutions like the International Monetary Fund.

The current account of the BOP includes trade transactions as well as OFW remittances.

Tetangco said the BSP now expects a surplus of $6.4 billion in the current account from an earlier forecast of $6 billion on the back of some $14.7 billion OFW remittances expected this year.

On the other hand, the BSP scaled down its export growth outlook for this year to 8 percent from an earlier growth of 11 percent.

"But at the same time we're looking at a lower import growth so there's smaller trade deficit so that will contribute to a larger current account surplus," Tetangco said.

The export growth forecast for the year was lowered not due to the adverse impact of a strengthening peso value but due to the declining prices of electronics as a result of stiffer competition among global manufacturers.

In the capital and financial account transactions, the BSP reversed its forecast from a deficit of $2 billion to a surplus of $1 billion due to substantial foreign inflows going to local stocks, bonds and other money market instruments since the start of the year.

Net foreign portfolio investments in equities, bonds and notes are now seen hitting $3.7 billion by yearend from an earlier forecast of $3.2 billion.

Despite sporadic aversion among global investors on assets from emerging markets like the Philippines, the country has benefited from a resurgence in portfolio investments or hot money. A bullish stock market amid a benign global economy has jacked up the net inflows of hot money into the country by nearly 300 percent to $3.5 billion from January to July over a year ago.

Also, foreign direct investments were being pumped into electronics, including semiconductor manufacturing, mining and ship-building.

Unlike portfolio investments which are more volatile, FDI flows represent investments in brick-and-mortar businesses that are capital- and usually labor-intensive such as those spent in building new factories, power plants, mining ventures or other enterprises. They are considered the least volatile form of financial flows.

The BSP, however, has lowered its net FDI forecast for the year to $1 billion from $1.5 billion due to an increasing trend of repayments by local subsidiaries of debts owed to foreign principals.

"This is good because it means that the local companies are making money," Tetangco said.

From the start of the year until the week ending Aug. 3, the Philippines' BOP surplus has hit $5 billion as strong foreign exchange inflows continued to pour into the country.

It was earlier reported that the BSP's foreign reserves have also surged to a new record high of nearly $28 billion as of end-July due to strong foreign inflows that have allowed the central bank to become a heavy buyer of dollars at the Philippine Dealing System, the spot foreign exchange market.

The strong foreign inflows since the start of the year have supported the peso's strengthening against the US dollar and allowed local borrowers, including the national government, to pay off some foreign debts ahead of maturity.

Merkel world's most powerful woman; GMA No. 51 on list

BERLIN—GERMANY'S CHANcellor Angela Merkel tops Forbes magazine's list of the world's 100 most powerful women for the second year in a row, as US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice slipped to fourth from second last year.

Merkel "continued to impress the world with her cool leadership at two back-to-back summits," Forbes said.

The magazine cited her work getting leaders at the Group of Eight summit to agree to goals for cutting greenhouse gas emissions and persuading European Union leaders to get moving on a treaty to replace their failed constitution.

Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is at No. 51. Ms Arroyo was No. 9 in 2004, climbed to No. 4 in 2005 and plunged to No. 45 in 2006 in the Forbes magazine's list.

China's vice premier Wu Yi was No. 2, and Ho Ching of Singapore, chief executive of Temasek Holdings, was third ahead of Rice.

Several other female heads of state or government made the list, including Britain's Queen Elizabeth at No. 23, New Zealand's Prime Minister Helen Clark at No. 38, and Finland's President Tarja Halonen at No. 50. *AP*

In slums, 'economy is better for those with money'

IN THE SLUMS AND BAZAARS of Manila and the farming villages that dot the archipelago, the GDP figures mean very little.

"The economy is getting better only for those with money," said Edwin Manaloto, a 40-year-old construction worker who abandoned farming in Isabela province to work in Manila.

"What I was earning from farming was not enough because prices continue to rise and I want to keep the children in school," said Manaloto.

A salesgirl who also came to Manila from Isabela said she could not sense any evidence of the growth surge.

"I can't feel it, life is still hard," said Maricel Lubo Tagao, a 21-year-old selling bags and wallets at a stall in an office block.

"There's a drought in our province so there is no rice harvest. My parents plant rice and corn for a living and it's more difficult now in our province."

Even those better off said they could see little in their lives that would reflect the economy's expansion—more this year than at any time in the past two decades.

"I'm in business and it's been OK so far," said Hershey Chan, 30, a jewelry designer.

Cheap manpower

"Doing business here is good because manpower here is cheap. But we can't sell our products here because we compete with machine-made, mass-produced items from China. So I export my products," Chan said.

Others say they see positive changes as a result of the growth, but it is patchy.

"Yes, they have delivered services and infrastructure," said a woman who runs a small food store in Dipolog City.

"But they cannot boast that growth is widespread and people are contented. Many continue to struggle," she said. *Reuters*

Villar, Roxas: Growth means little to jobless

BASKING IN THE GLOW of 7.5% GDP growth, President Arroyo meets with the Filipino community in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday and tells OFWs that soon they need not go abroad to get jobs. MALACAÑANG PHOTO

From page A1

Malacañang, however, insisted that government statistics don't lie.

"I am pleasantly surprised with the second quarter's robust growth of 7.5 percent. But as far as Juan de la Cruz is concerned, GDP growth means nothing, if it does not directly relate to his own wallet," said Roxas.

Roxas challenged the government to turn the upbeat newspaper headlines to food on the table, to better jobs and income, and to more affordable goods and services.

Jobless growth

"It's impressive but a jobless growth would blot out and reduce the impact of any economic growth. Growth of the job market should accompany any GDP growth, so the latter can be felt by those who pin their hopes on the improving economy to better their lives," said Villar.

Both lawmakers cited the unusually high level of joblessness among Filipinos which has reinforced the pervasive view that President Macapagal-Arroyo has failed to bring down her much touted economic gains down to the masses.

With 7.4 percent unemployed and 18.9 percent underemployed, Roxas said this meant that more than one in four Filipinos have either no job or were employed in jobs below their earning capacity.

"There is a need to focus on the productive sectors of the economy that are potent employment providers," said Roxas.

Manufacturing, flat growth

While industry was boosted by higher activity in construction (up 21.5 percent) and mining (up 33.32 percent), Roxas said the more important manufacturing sector (which accounts for nearly a quarter of GDP) had flat growth of 3.73 percent.

"In real terms, 2.691 million were without jobs and 6.381 million were working part-time whose pay presumably were not enough to eke out a decent living. It is this army of nine million unemployed and semi-employed who should benefit from the rosy economic picture which the government is painting. They should be the bellwether if indeed growth is trickling down or we are just being tricked into believing that there is," said Villar.

2 disturbing figures

Villar cited two disturbing figures in the unemployment data—Metro Manila had the highest unemployment rate at 12.5 percent and half of all jobless Filipinos were between 15 and 24 years old.

Roxas explained that Ms Arroyo's rosy economic statistics have not translated to more jobs or higher income for more Filipinos because the economy was driven more by consumption (bloated by P40 billion in election spending) rather than investments.

Consumption, which accounts for about 70 percent of GDP, soared by 8.7 percent in the second quarter, mostly due to purchases of goods and property from funds sent home by overseas Filipinos. It contributed 4.69 percentage points to the total GDP growth.

Another reason for the disconnect in the economy, Roxas said, was the lackluster growth in agriculture—up by only 3.9 percent from 6.7 percent last year. "It contributed less than one percent to economic growth yet agriculture accounts for 40 percent of the labor force. This is the sector where the country's poor earn their living, and we should immediately focus on establishing sustainability of agriculture production," said Roxas.

Cabinet Secretary Ricardo Saludo dismissed doubts over the record GDP growth.

"Sometimes, we are quick to doubt. We should not ignore their exemplary work just because of some suspicious text messages and criticisms that are not validated," he said.

An administration congressman yesterday also dismissed doubts raised by critics and skeptics on the 7.5 percent GDP growth in the second quarter.

Diehard critics

"Only the diehard critics of the Palace do not believe in economic figures. Of course the economy is getting better but the effects cannot be felt down the countryside as this requires time to filter down to the grass roots," Davao City Rep. Prospero Nograles said in a text message yesterday.

A beaming President Macapagal-Arroyo announced the growth figures at Malacañang on Thursday, saying the Philippines was on the cusp of a new era.

"Our economy has reached a new level of maturity and stability with one of the strongest macroeconomic fundamentals in two decades," she said. "We should not rest, instead we should charge ahead and sustain the momentum.

"In the next three years, we will translate the positive results of our economic reforms to real benefits for the people."

Ms Arroyo said the GDP, the market value of goods produced and services rendered, excluding income from abroad—grew 7.5 percent in the second quarter of 2007, the highest growth in 20 years.

The Philippines outgrew its Asian neighbors, such as Malaysia, Hong Kong and Indonesia, but trailed Singapore's 8.6-percent and China's 11.9-percent.

"No one thought that we could get more revenues, cut down on tax cheats, strengthen the peso and move the stock market. No one thought we could bring our budget into the balance, repay our debts and increase jobs, but we have done it," Ms Arroyo said.

Glowing remarks in Malaysia

Ms Arroyo said the economy was on track to a full-year growth of 6.1-6.7 percent in the GDP.

Yesterday, Ms Arroyo continued to bask in the glow of her administration's successful handling of the economy.

Addressing a gathering of Filipino community in Malaysia, the President said:

"Our ambitious economic reforms are helping break the offshore cycle and increasingly keeping our best and brightest right in the Philippines, closer to friends and family, helping to build our communities and provide the next generation of leadership."

She said economic reforms were the frontline in the campaign to reduce poverty.

She cited the pivotal role played by the expanded value-added tax. *With a report from Norman Bordadora*

IAEB No 2007-019

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID (IAEB)

The Department of Tourism (DOT) through its Special Bids and Awards Committee (SBAC), invites Phil-GEPS registered suppliers/ manufacturers/ distributors/contractors/service providers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : DOT-PTA Janitorial Services
Project Description : Janitorial Services
Approved Budget For the Contract : P 4,739,328.00
Contract Period : One year *(November 2007 – October 2008)*

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding, and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the execution of the project. The criteria to be used by SBAC in the eligibility check of prospective bidders shall be a non-discretionary "pass/fail" basis. As such, non-submission of any of the eligibility requirements will result in the disqualification of prospective bidders. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	10-14 September, 2007 (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) Rm. 314 3rd Floor DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw Ermita, Manila
2. Pre-bid Conference	18 September 2007 (2:00 p.m.) DOT Training Room, Rm. 202 2nd Floor DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw Ermita, Manila
3. Submission of Eligibility Requirements, Technical and Financial Proposals	Until 1:00 p.m. only, 2 October 2007 Rm. 314 3rd Flr. DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw Ermita, Manila
4. Opening of Bids (includes eligibility checks)	2 October 2007 (2:00 p.m.) Rm. 202 2nd Floor DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw Ermita, Manila

Complete sets of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Documents may be obtained at the SBAC Secretariat c/o Florencio Capati Jr., Rm. 314, DOT Bldg., T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila (tel. nos. 524-1680 and 524-1742) upon payment of non-refundable fee of P 4,000.00 Eligibility requirements and bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the SBAC Chairman.

The Department of Tourism reserves the right to reject any or all bids, declare a Failure of Bidding at any time prior to the contract award, or not to award the contract, without thereby incurring any liability, and make no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of the bidding. Likewise, the Department of Tourism may waive any minor defect therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the government. Further, the Department of Tourism assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:
(Sgd.) Usec. Oscar P. Palabyab
SBAC Chairman

(PDI – September 1, 2007)

IAEB No. 2007-020

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID (IAEB)

The Department of Tourism (DOT) through its Special Bids and Awards Committee (SBAC), invites Phil-GEPS registered suppliers/ manufacturers/ distributors/contractors/service providers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : **DOT-PTA Security Services**
Project Description : Security Services
Approved Budget for the Contract : P 16,353,900.00
Contract Period : One year *(November 2007 – October 2008)*

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding, and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the execution of the project. The criteria to be used by SBAC in the eligibility check of prospective bidders shall be a non-discretionary "pass/fail" basis. As such, non-submission of any of the eligibility requirements will result in the disqualification of prospective bidders Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	10-14 September , 2007 (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) Rm. 314, 3rd Floor DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila
2. Pre-bid Conference	19 September 2007 (2:00 p.m.) DOT Training Room, Rm. 202 2nd Floor, DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw Ermita, Manila
3. Submission of Eligibility Requirements, Technical and Financial Proposals	Until 1:00 p.m. only, 3 October 2007 Rm. 314, 3rd Flr. DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila
4. Opening of Bids (includes eligibility checks)	3 October 2007 (2:00 p.m.) Rm. 202, 2nd Floor DOT Bldg. T.M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila

Complete sets of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Documents may be obtained at the SBAC Secretariat c/o Florencio Capati Jr., Rm. 314, DOT Bldg , T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila (tel. nos. 524-1680 and 524-1742) upon payment of non-refundable fee of 10,000.00 Eligibility requirements and bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the SBAC Chairman.

The Department of Tourism reserves the right to reject any or all bids, declare a Failure of Bidding at any time prior to the contract award, or not to award the contract, without thereby incurring any liability, and make no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of the bidding. Likewise, the Department of Tourism may waive any minor defect therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the government. Further, the Department of Tourism assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) USEC. OSCAR P. PALABYAB
SBAC Chairman

(PDI–September 1, 2007)

Not too many 'buggers,' please

SEN. RODOLFO BIAZON WANTS the National Telecommunication Commission to limit to six the number of government agencies authorized to conduct wiretapping operations.

Under Senate Bill No. 1497, Biazon, chair of the committee on national defense and security, recommended that the NTC grant a wiretapping permit to Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Immigration and Deportation (BID), Bureau of Custom (BOC) and other law enforcement agencies.

But Biazon said the six authorized "buggers" should still get prior authorization from the NTC before engaging in any wiretapping operation in conformity with Republic Act 4200 or the Anti-wiretapping Law.

RA 4200 allows wiretapping only if the authorities obtain a court order for specific cases (such as espionage, treason and rebellion) and provided that they specify the operatives and the subject of the bugging operation and the results submitted immediately to the court.

Any information derived from wiretapping can only be used as evidence if the bugging operation was done with NTC's prior approval.

"The right to privacy of communication and correspondence is enshrined in the Constitution in Section 3 of Article III which states that the privacy of communication and correspondence shall be inviolate except upon lawful order of the court or when public safety or order requires," said Biazon.

Biazon will chair the joint committee that will tackle the wiretapping operations conducted by the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in 2004 which spawned the now infamous 'Hello Garci' tapes and plunged the Arroyo administration into its most serious political crisis.

Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

CONFERENCE FOR THE CHILD

Oprah can't make it, but 500 others will

EVEN WITHOUT OPRAH, Manila will see the largest conference for the child the country has seen.

Child protection professionals and advocates will meet from Sept. 24 to 26 at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza for the 7th Asian Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, a biennial event of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), organized this year for Asia by the Philippine-based Child Protection Unit-Network (CPU-Net).

The conference, on the theme "Ako Para sa Bata (I am For the Child)," expects to gather some 500 participants, including judges, lawyers, doctors, law enforcers and social workers, from Asia, Europe and the United States.

America's "Queen of Talk," Oprah Winfrey, a known child advocate, was invited more than a year ahead of the conference but has begged off because of a busy work schedule.

Busiest time

"We were told that September is the busiest time ... The shooting of episodes of the Oprah Show starts September," said Dr. Bernadette Madrid, executive director of CPU-Net, an organization of women lawyers, doctors and social workers involved in the training of policemen, prosecutors and judges in handling cases involving children.

Organizers had wanted Winfrey to be among the main speakers and share her story of surviving the abuse she experienced while growing up in poverty in Milwaukee.

Still, the two-day conference will have expert speakers that include US forensic pediatrician Sharon Cooper and economist Jeffrey Sachs, the United Nations Director for Millennium Development who will address the plenary via video conferencing.

Filipino lay preacher, Bo Sanchez, will deliver an inspirational message to close the conference.

Speakers will tackle topics that include child trafficking, children in armed conflict and natural disasters, child-friendly judicial reforms, and the involvement of media in promoting child protection.

Organizers also hope to highlight the Philippines' strength in child protection laws, protocols and practices.

Tarra Quismundo

Dole: Hard times keep kids working

By Jerome Aning

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR and Employment has estimated the number of child workers at four million, but admitted that bringing down the number may be difficult because of hard times and a huge population that continues to expand.

Labor Assistant Secretary for Especial Concerns and External Affairs Ma. Teresa Soriano said yesterday more and more children were still being employed in various establishments and sectors nationwide, ironically because their parents could not themselves land jobs.

"While we implement intervention measures, [the reason for the still high number of child workers] is partly economic because many parents are not earning enough and the help of the children is needed especially in the provinces where child labor is being encouraged," Soriano said during the National Meeting on Child Labor held at the Occupational Safety and Health Center (OSHC) office in Quezon City.

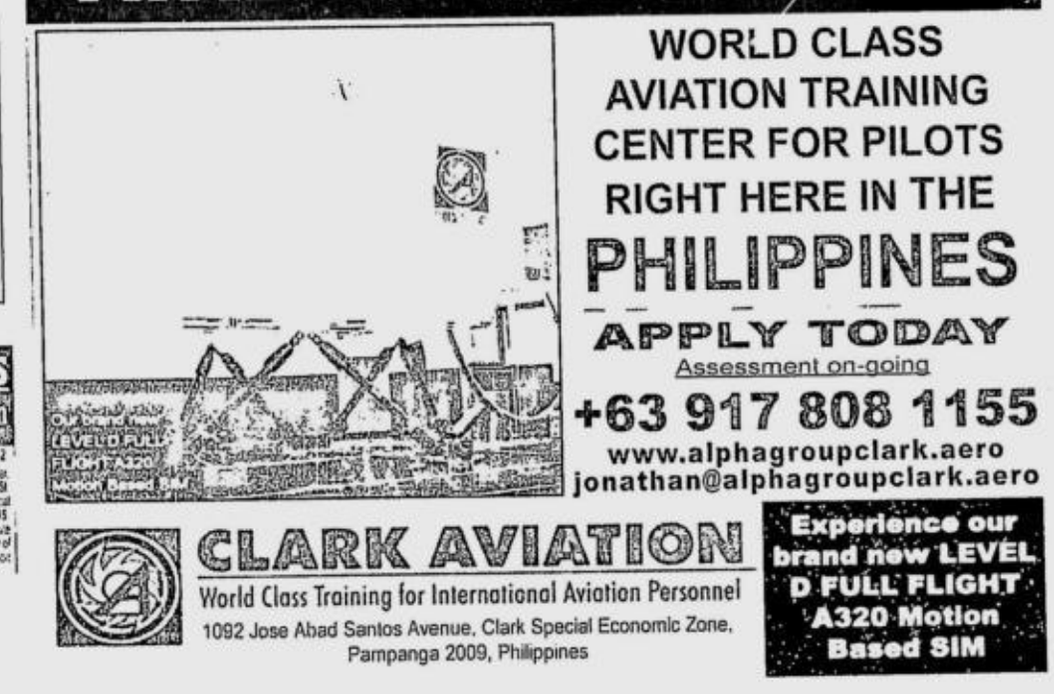
Soriano also pinned the growing number of child laborers in the country on the high population growth rate. "A lot of babies are being born since we already have a large population, so definitely we'd have more child workers [in the future]."

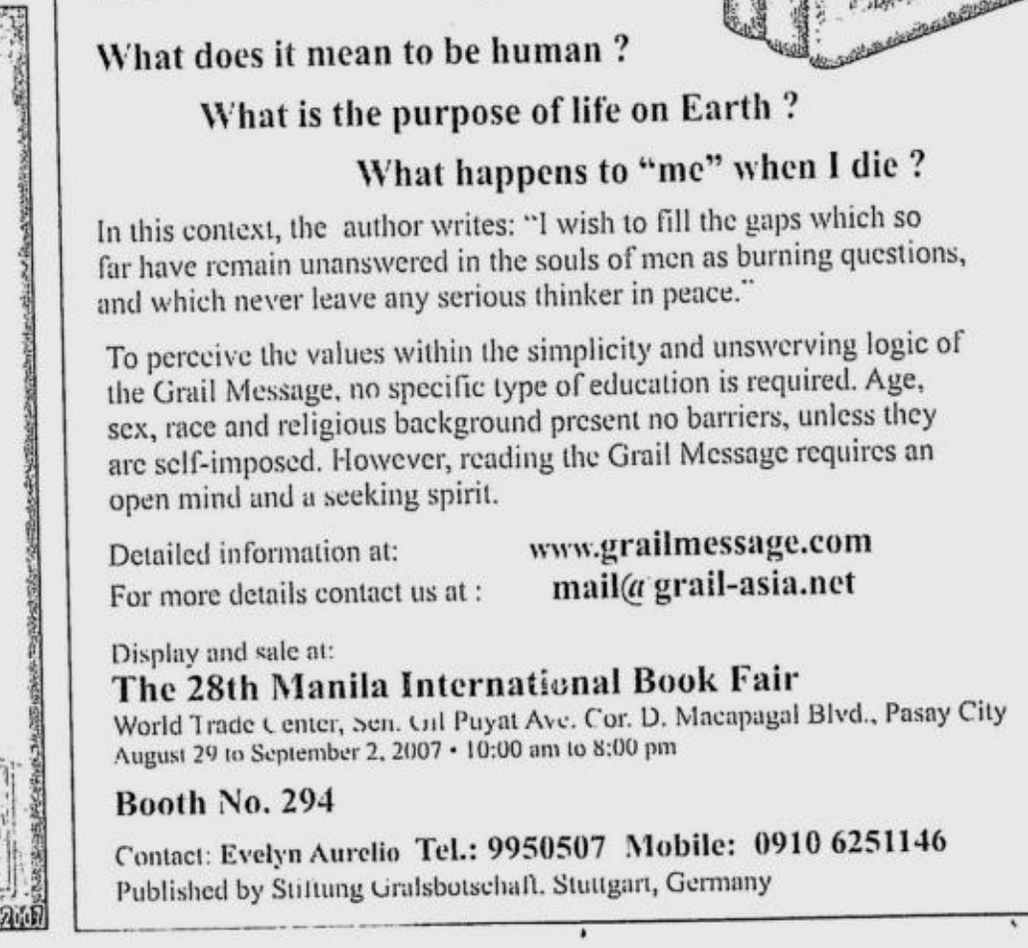
She said that the government had been able to rescue or place under its protection over 42,000 child workers from 2000 to 2006, majority of them employed in hazardous jobs in mining, quarrying, plantations, night entertainment and explosives-manufacturing.

Despite the difficulties, she said, the government planned to rearrange its programs to make the Philippines "child labor-free" by 2015.

Labor officials, she added, would first coordinate with the National Statistics Office to conduct a separate survey among working children to give Dole a clear data base system.

"This data base will identify the worst and hazardous forms of child labor. These will help us decide which area or sector that have to be prioritized," Soriano said.





Call 730-1000
for more
information.

Kahit saan man siya
buo pa rin ang

Sa bawat kwentuhan ng latest chika,
palitan ng kuro-kuro,
padala ng suporta,
kada tawanan at palitan ng mga ngiti...

Diyan nabubuo ang pamilya.
At mas madaling mabuo ang pamilyang magkalayo
sa tulong ng Globe.
Ang number one sa puso ng pamilyang OFW.

© 2007 Globe Telecom, Inc.

ragsisikap sa mundo, pamilya niyo.

Pinakasulit talaga ang Worldwidest Services ng Globe:

- P0.17 Kada Segundo IDD* para sa maikling chikahan
- P7.50 per minute IDD para sa mahabang kwentuhan
- Ang daling mag-remit ng suporta gamit ang GCash
- G-WebCall na P7.50 lang para makausap si labs kahit nasa gitna ng karagatan
- International Text para tuluy-tuloy ang palitan ng love notes kay mahal

Globe™
Abot mo ang mundo.

Also available in TM except for G-WebCall. *Promo until September 13, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3372, Series of 2007.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2007

ISSN 0116-2642 INQUIRER Vol. 22 No. 265

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/opinion

OPINION

Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•Subscription Hotline 896-6000

•100% soy ink•

Trickle or trick

EDITORIAL

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO WAS SAID TO have been euphoric Thursday as she announced the strong performance of the Philippine economy in the second quarter of the year. And quite understandably so. The economy, as measured by the gross domestic product, grew by 7.5 percent in the period from April to June, a growth rate that exceeded not only the government's forecast of 6.6 percent but even the most optimistic expectations. It was, as Ms Arroyo proudly pointed out, the highest growth in any quarter in the past 20 years, keeping intact the series of successive growth during her six years in office. That is a record unmatched by any other administration, she added. And it came after an already healthy first quarter growth of 7.1 percent—better than the 6.9 percent growth earlier estimated by the National Statistical Coordination Board.

This is certainly good news for everyone but those who do not wish the Arroyo administration well. But can such growth, which is still slow by Asian standards, be sustained? Businessmen and economists, who were just as elated as the President was over this year's economic performance so far, see the economy continuing to grow for the rest of the year, but at a slower pace. Ms Arroyo herself said the government would stick to its full-year growth target of between 6.1 percent and 6.7 percent, which means essentially the same as what the businessmen are seeing: a slight slowdown in the second half.

The reason is that some of the main drivers behind the unexpectedly robust growth in the second quarter will either become weaker or even be gone. Election-related spending, for instance, will no longer be there to boost consumption, which expanded by 6 percent during the quarter; and construction whose growth was propelled by a 39.6 percent increase in government spending on infrastructure. For the short term, mining is expected to power the growth of the industry sector as foreign investments continue to pour in, and business process outsourcing, which mainly involves call-center operations, should keep the growth in services healthy. But it is doubtful whether these two growth centers by themselves can pull the economy as a whole to a vigorous level of growth.

Giving her administration a pat on the back, the President declared that the remarkable performance of the economy showed that "our economic plans succeeded." Said she: "No one thought that we could get more revenues, cut down on tax cheats, strengthen the peso and move the stock market. No one thought, we could bring our budget into balance, repay our debts and increase jobs, but we have done it."

As far as those things are concerned, the review should be mixed. For one thing, the administration cannot claim all the credit for the stronger peso, without ignoring the more significant contribution of the inward remittances of overseas Filipino workers. Revenue collections may be higher in the last two years, but that is largely the result of the introduction of new tax measures, particularly the increase to 12 percent of the value-added tax. In fact, collections of both the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs fell short of target during the first half of 2007, and now their chiefs are seeking lower collection targets for next year, even as the government seeks to increase its expenditure program to P1.227 trillion. True, a part of the country's debts have been retired sooner than planned, but the government has not balanced its budget yet. Neither has it made a lot of headway in going after tax cheats as well as corrupt officials not only in the BIR and Customs but in the entire government bureaucracy.

Job creation? That is still one of the weakest points of the administration. Senate President Manuel Villar pointed out that 2.7 million Filipinos remain jobless while close to 6.4 million are holding either part-time jobs or jobs where their education, training or talents are not being fully utilized. The bellwether of economic progress, he said, should be whether or not this army of unemployed and underemployed benefits from the growth being touted by the administration.

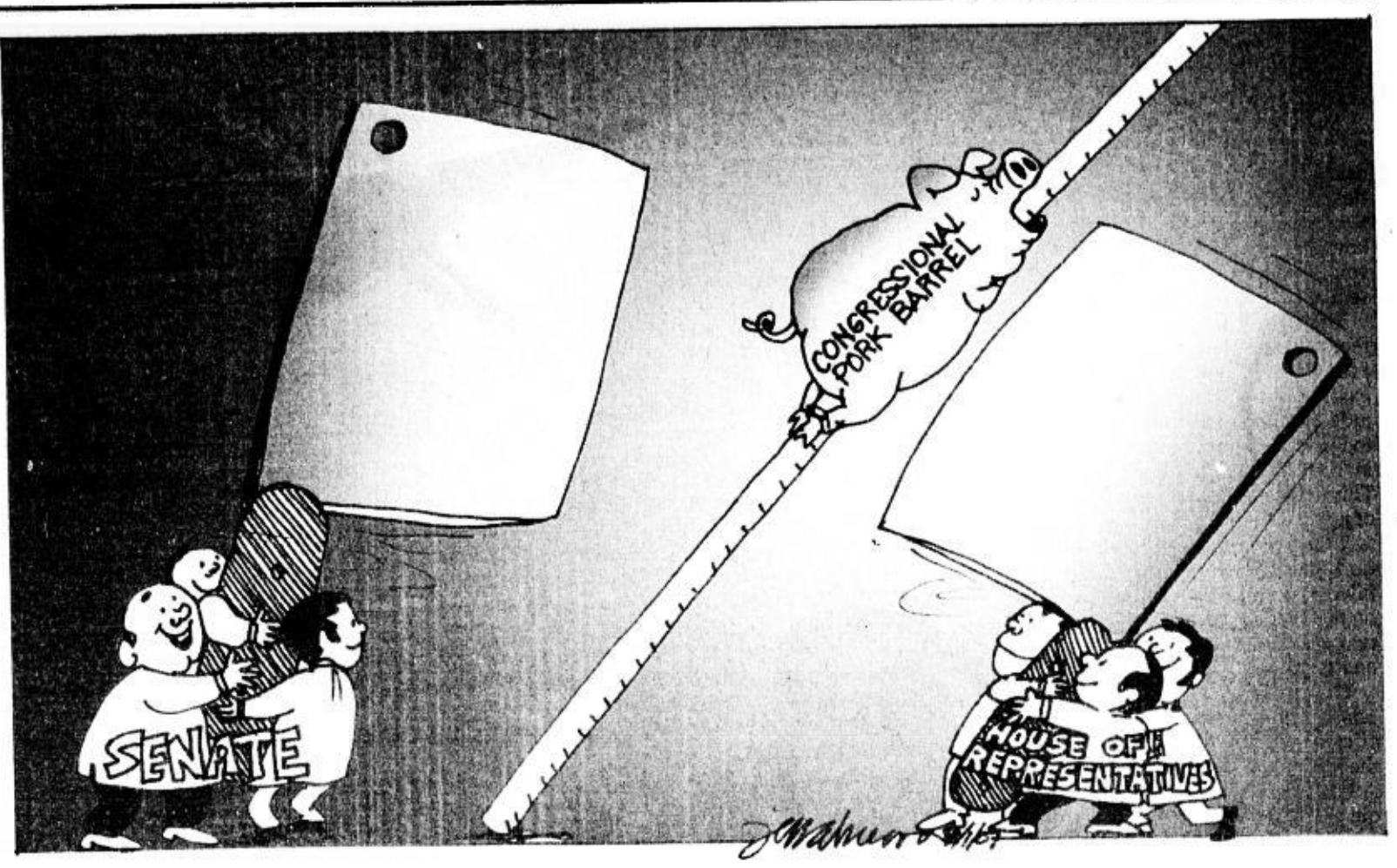
Apparently, years of growth has not opened more jobs or created the kind of jobs that put a little more food on the table for millions of Filipino families. Ms Arroyo has to do a lot more to ensure that the benefits of growth trickle down to those who need them most. Otherwise, as Villar put it, people might think they are being tricked to believe there is progress.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation SANDY SIMON R. YAP

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TIROL
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.



Bayani Fernando and the urban poor

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IF THERE IS ONE PUBLIC OFFICIAL IN OUR country today who does his work seemingly without regard for the political consequences, that person has to be Bayani Fernando, the current chair of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA). In a just society, he would be a model public servant. But in our kind of society, he can only be the blind, uncaring agent of the powerful.

BF, as he is popularly known, is ironically, for the same reason, the modern Metro Manilan's folk hero. For the city's most persistent problems—illegal encroachment on public space, traffic gridlocks, rampant criminality, flooding, urban blight, etc.—he finds solutions that are, at one and the same time, capricious and ingenious, impulsive and experimental, outlandish and generally effective. The upper and middle classes hail him as modernity's champion, and think of him as the kind of president we need. But I doubt that he will ever win an election outside of Marikina, where he was mayor for many years.

For BF is also possibly the Filipino poor's most hated figure. This is understandable. To him belongs the unenviable job of dealing with all the illegal improvisations that make up the typical life of those who are forced to spend the greater part of their time trying to survive. BF is right in the frontline of the class conflict that rages daily in our divided society. And he is staunchly on the side of power.

While his political bosses may pay lip service to the needs of the poor even as their policies systematically oppress them, BF has no choice but to face the poor as if they were a perpetual nuisance, in accordance with his assigned role as the hatchet man of an unjust property system.

In this capacity, he must remain blind to the larger societal context of the problems he is assigned to fix. He cannot propose long-term solutions that touch on the structural inequalities from which flow all the problematic outcomes of mass poverty. He is effective precisely because he treats the symptoms, and remains unmindful of the profound social illness that produces them. In countless media appearances, BF speaks of the problems of the city in such folksy commonsensical terms that he leaves you wondering how someone like him can be so insensitive in his dealings with the poor. You expect this lack of empathy to come from a disengaged technocrat who cannot see beyond his theory. It is shocking to find it in a practical man like BF who has lived among the masses. Is it possible that he thinks he knows the poor so well that he actually believes there is no way of dealing with them except by acts of toughness?

A few years ago, he stopped illegal vendors from plying their trade on sidewalks by ordering his men to spray kerosene on the goods they were selling. In this manner, he reasoned, there is no way they can recover their investments. He confiscated their carts, and detained those who persisted in occupying the sidewalks.

The other day, I heard him on radio talking about the demolition of shanties along *esteros* and under bridges that impede the flow of rain water and cause flash floods. Asked if there were relocation sites to which the affected families could be transferred, BF had a ready reply: "We cannot reward these lawbreakers by giving them homes." He wants to send them back to the provinces where they came from. One might wonder where such attitude is coming from. But in fact it is a sentiment that is silently held by many Filipinos who do not have to live dangerously along river banks or pitch their shanties inside cemeteries.

It is difficult not to appreciate BF's stubborn ideas about how to make the city livable. To him it is all a matter of teaching people how to live in a modern society. There is a lot of truth in this, but it is not the whole story. It omits the one crucial element that determines the character of most of our social problems as a nation—mass poverty.

You cannot have a well-ordered city if nearly one-half of your residents have no regular jobs, no decent homes, and no bright future to look forward to no matter how hard they try. Law-abiding citizens will not thrive in a society in which the very structure of opportunity has collapsed for the many. They will be forced to improvise in order to survive. They will put up their homes wherever they can so they can be close to schools, hospitals and places of work.

You cannot tell people constantly on the verge of starvation to stay away from garbage heaps. You cannot tell them that scavenging is an unworthy way to earn a living. You have to show them that a better way is within their reach. BF knows this. He was irked by the sight of grown men stopping in the middle of the streets to urinate behind the doors of their taxis or on the tires of their jeepneys. He tried shaming them for acting like stray animals, but to no avail. What finally put a stop to this uncivilized habit were the pink urinals he put up on Metro Manila's sidewalks. If you build public toilets, people will relieve themselves decently. If you build them proper homes, they will voluntarily leave the *esteros*.

People in general are not unreasonable. They may stall, negotiate and try to assert the primacy of their interest—but such behavior is pretty much distributed across social classes. Poverty is certainly no excuse for recalcitrance. But even under a rule of law, the MMDA's forcible demolition of poor people's shanties, leaving them without a roof over their heads, constitutes an unspeakable atrocity.

* * *

Comments to public.lives@gmail.com

Progress, the GSIS way

GET REAL

Solita Collas-Monsod

THE INVITATION I ISSUED LAST WEEK FOR government employees to share with me, by text or e-mail, their experiences in dealing with the Government Service Insurance System drew an avalanche of responses from GSIS retirees and active members alike, not one of whom had anything complimentary to say about the organization. The messages are still coming as I write this column, and the frustration, rage, anger, helplessness, desperation, that they convey are almost palpable. The writers or texters range from Ph.D.s on one end of the education scale, to the barely articulate. They write either on their own behalf or in representation of groups. What's more, they come from all over the country—literally, from Aparri to Jolo. I cannot help but share their feelings.

Actually, a couple of the responders said they disagreed with me—they were under the impression that I was defending the eCard system of the GSIS. Let me make it clear: I find nothing wrong with the eCard **concept**. But the way it was and is being implemented is another matter altogether.

Let me provide the reader with a flavor of some of the messages I received: Ernest Federiso of the Iloilo DENR, a board member of the Iloilo Council for Personnel Officers (ICPO) for National Government Agencies (NGAs), and designated "Agency Authorized Officer" to the GSIS, asks me to "[p]lease help, stand up, speak up and take the cudgels for us! I believe that as soon as you vigorously raise this, it would produce a snowball effect nationwide and you will realize the overwhelming support from other state workers." What impressed me is that he and his group are not letting grass grow under their feet, but are "currently soliciting our co-workers' support through a signature campaign on the Manifesto hereunder."

The Manifesto strikes me as a very well-prepared document which proclaims "our great dismay and frustration with the way the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS)-Iloilo Branch handles our and our co-workers' funds, processes our claims and maintains our individual and office remittances records"; it presents a 19-item list of exactly what is wrong with the GSIS, provides another 19-item list of what GSIS should do to improve. It could actually be the basis of a Senate inquiry. Any takers?

Then there is Judy Taguiwalo, an associate professor at the College of Social Work and Community Development (CSWCD) in UP Diliman, and also the current president of the union of the rank-and-file faculty and REPS of UP, the All-UP Academic Employees Union. She writes that "the GSIS under Winston Garcia has been a major source of complaints from our members and the members of the All UP Workers Union, and the union of administrative staff of UP." We have set a lunch date to discuss some of the actions they want to take to resolve their problems. It looks like Federiso's "snowball effect" might just be starting.

The complaints of retirees reveal some interesting similarities. One such is the four-month delay in the receipt of their pensions. Elmer Casillan, whose father died in a public hospital (he had to be transferred from a private one because his pension was delayed), wrote about this four-month delay, as did retirees from Romblon, from Zamboanga, from Metro Manila, from South Cotabato, etc.

It looks like the delays—and this comes from Mon I., who writes in the hope that his information will help "melt the iceberg"—are caused by problems in the new system being installed in the GSIS, during which the processing of all the systems running in the mainframe was stopped. Mon asks some pointed questions: What if this new system is not capable of handling all the system requirements of GSIS (apparently, this has happened before)? Why not do a parallel so members and retirees are not inconvenienced?

Then there are the horror stories: balances disappearing, eCard not working, long lines in the only branch or ATM that Union Bank owns (you have to pay a service charge if you use the other ATMS in the network), the Union Bank ATM not recognizing the eCard, GSIS kiosks down, more delays in getting a loan with the eCard than with the old system, delays in information processing.

GSIS also responded to my column—in a letter (published yesterday, together with my response and that of Ramon Farolan), and in a meeting Thursday night organized by the INQUIRER at the behest of GSIS President Winston Garcia (which is written about elsewhere in this issue). The point was made that the number of complaints are minuscule compared to the total number of claims settled, loans granted, and pensions processed, amounting to 2,426,552 transactions (not persons) for the first seven months of 2007.

That sounds impressive, so I asked to be furnished with comparable data for previous years, to track the improvements in GSIS "production" since, say, the computerization and the eCard. The information was faxed to me—and I was stunned. Why? Because instead of an **increase** in total number of total loans and claims since 2004 (the eCard project was started in the second half of the year), there has been a **decrease**: 5 million in 2004, 4.6 million in 2005, and 3.6 million in 2006. A simple projection of the 2007 number by getting the monthly average for the first seven months and multiplying it by 12 will yield 4.2 million for this year—larger than 2006, but smaller than 2005 and about 20 percent less than the 2004 figure.

This is progress?

Voices of the judiciary

SOCIAL CLIMATE

Mahar Mangahas

OPINION POLLING ON THE JUDICIARY GOES back to 1985, when only 49 percent of Filipinos agreed, in a national poll for the Philippine Bar Association, that "Whether rich or poor, people who have cases in court generally receive equal treatment." There has been no improvement since then: in SWS national polls, only 43 percent in 1993, 41 percent in 1997, 36 percent in 1999, and 40 percent in 2003 considered rich and poor equally treated in court.

Many in the profession accepted the findings. In 1985, then Judge Miriam Defensor-Santiago said, "The survey results coincide with the realities of the courtroom," and Fr. Joaquin Bernas, S.J. called the answers "a severe indictment of lawyers in general." However, many felt that the voices of lawyers, and of judges especially, are essential in evaluating the judiciary.

The voices of the judiciary were heard, most recently, by the research project "Diagnostic Study of the Challenges in the Judiciary." It was based on 1,072 responses from all the 1,512 judges in Regional Trial Courts and lower levels, to whom SWS mailed questionnaires in 2005/06, in close cooperation with the Supreme Court. This was a full referendum, not a sample survey, of judges at those levels.

Young judges, heavy loads. With many positions having been recently vacated, and then refilled, there are now many judges relatively new on the job. One in five has at most two years, and two in five have at most five years, of experience on the bench.

The median caseload is 382 cases per Regional Trial Court judge, and 236 cases per judge in lower courts. For RTCs and lower courts combined, the median is 300 cases per judge.

Improving compensation. A decade ago, four out of five judges called their compensation inadequate. Now, thankfully, only three out of five say this. Those who say the pay is adequate are still a minority, but have grown steadily in number from 17 percent in 1996 to 36 percent in 2006.

Adding fringe benefits is a way of raising compensation. What judges would most appreciate are **health and hospitalization insurance** and **improved retirement benefits.**

They are particularly adamant that the policy of adjusting benefits for retired justices, whenever salaries of incumbent justices are increased, also be applied to ordinary judges.

Physical security. This is an extremely important concern: 85 percent of judges say they need **adequate life/disability insurance**, but only 11 percent say they have it.

Sixty-four percent say they need, but only 16 percent say they actually have, a **personal firearm with license to carry.** Twenty-eight percent say they need, but only 4 percent have, an **armed bodyguard.**

Discomfort with the Rules of Court. The Supreme Court is sensitive to criticism that "the Rules of Court are cumbersome." The percentage of judges who **disagree** that the Rules are cumbersome fell from 58 percent in 2004 to 37 percent in 2006; that's not good.

Judges who see the Rules as cumbersome say: "They make unreasonable demands on the time and resources of judges"; "they allow dilatory tactics of lawyers"; and "they become complex because of numerous circulars."

Equally worrisome is the fall in those who disagree that "the Rules of Court encourage corruption," from 80-81 percent in 1996 and 2004 to 64 percent in 2006. The Rules seen as most conducive to corruption are on **execution of judgment** and **provisional remedies.**

Amenability to the Continuous Trial System (CTS). A 43-percent plurality of judges now say that CTS works, versus a minority 31 percent two years ago. Those who say CTS does not work are now a minority 35 percent, from a majority 60 percent before. This is a turnaround for the better.

The problems most cited by judges about CTS are the unavailability of prosecutors, lawyers, litigants, and lawyers from the Public Attorney's Office. Judges unhappy with CTS also have the greatest tendency to complain about the clogging of court dockets.

Consistency in court decisions. To assess claims that court decisions are too unpredictable, SWS asked the judges if certain court-levels tend to base their decisions on precedents, or if they tend to look for exceptions to them. This resulted in ratings for consistency of 81 percent for the Supreme Court, also 81 percent for the Regional Courts, and also 81 percent for lower trial courts, but only 72 percent for the Court of Appeals.

Corruption. When asked to roughly estimate the number of corrupt judges or justices in specific courts, 17 percent of those who responded saw "many/very many" such judges in the RTCs. The other "many/very many" scores were: 14 percent in the metropolitan and municipal courts, 12 percent in the Court of Appeals, 4 percent in the Shari'a Courts, 4 percent in the Sandiganbayan, and 2 percent in the Supreme Court.

Judges who see consistency in the decisions of a specific court-category also tend to see fewer corrupt judges in that category.

* * *

SWS submitted its new study on the judiciary to then Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban early last December. Earlier referenda of judges completed in 1996 and 2004 are discussed in a forthcoming book, **Insiders' Views of The State of the Judiciary and the Legal Profession in the Philippines.** All three studies were sponsored by the Asia Foundation, with support from the US Agency for International Development.

* * *

Contact SWS: www.sws.org.ph or mahar.mangahas@sws.org.ph

'A Tribute To Teachers'

COMMENTARY

Ching Jorge

TODAY 15,000 TEACHERS WILL GATHER at the Araneta Coliseum to celebrate the nobility of being a teacher. Over the years the face of the Filipino teacher has not changed. Underpaid and overworked, yet they are tasked to form the foundation of our future—educating the Filipino youth.

Ours is a culture that puts little value in the teaching profession. Even teachers themselves seem to acknowledge this by adopting a "*teacher lang*" attitude, when in fact, it is the only profession that has a hand in shaping the nation's future. Future leaders, businessmen, entrepreneurs, home-based professionals, all have their teachers to thank for their education.

Our teachers carry a heavy burden, in their hands lie the formation of the hearts and minds of the youth while they themselves have to embody the values and principles that they teach. Though far from perfect, we have many teachers who silently fulfill this task without asking for recognition or attention.

Teachers who put the country above themselves and their families to protect our votes; teachers who walk kilometers each day to reach their students who are waiting in their makeshift classrooms to learn; teachers who share their own meager salaries with students who cannot afford to buy books, pencils or food; teachers who act as second parents to abused, neglected students seeking love and attention not provided in their homes; teachers who have chosen to stay in the profession despite other better offers abroad or locally because they uphold the greater return of an inspired and educated youth. They are the "Filipino teacher" who lives for the benefit of her students.

Giving due recognition is one thing, but to enable policy changes to effect the needed upgrading of standards for our teachers is another. How can we improve the quality of our education system when the very basic issue of compensation for teachers cannot be settled? The private sector has not been remiss in its duties to uplift the quality of education; in fact it makes sure that its efforts support the Department of Education's programs and policies. But the DepEd's frequent change of leadership has made it difficult for the agency to follow through and maintain its programs

What is more alarming is that the education crisis is not even about just public schools anymore but private schools as well. Only a number of top-tier private schools can be labeled as successful, with the remaining private schools having to contend with students shifting from private to public and the lack of policy support.

Education expert Mario Taguiwalo and former Education Secretary Florencio "Butch" Abad contend that the reform process in our education system is essentially political and it is important to recognize it as such.

Private sector resource mobilization efforts, such as the 57-75 campaign, are commendable and are steps toward creating a deeper awareness of—and triggering—structural changes in education. But the key still lies in the leadership and reform process within the education department.

Much still needs to be done, but we should celebrate our victories—the things that give us hope, that allow us to strive harder and aim higher. Our teachers are one of them.

The Philippines is highly respected in the specialized field of robotics. In the World Robotics Olympiad held in China last year, our students competed against the best of the best among 16 countries. We won the Gold Medal in the Open category for the First Asia Institute of Technology and Humanities in Tanauan City, Batangas and the Best Team Spirit for Grace Christian High School.

Mylene Abiva of FELTA Multi-media—organizers of the Philippine Robotics Olympiad—said that the Philippines is indeed making a name for itself in the field of robotics.

The Department of Science and Technology is taking this on as a project for the youth. It takes a different skill set—one that involves creativity and innovation—EQ rather than IQ. It goes to show that there are other, more critical areas wherein which our youth can excel. More than just creating batches of American-accented English speakers for call centers, we can still venture into other areas that tap the resourcefulness and creativity of our youth.

This is the time for us to work hand-in-hand with our teachers to discover new areas of congruence, new solutions to old problems. It is time for us to thank them for the years of educating our children, for being role models and inspiring hope for our country.

Today we give honor to the countless, nameless heroes of our nation—our teachers.

"A Tribute To Teachers," organized annually by the Bato Balani Foundation Inc. celebrates the nobility of the teaching profession. It also gives recognition, through the program "Many Faces of the Teacher," to some of the most outstanding educators in the country.

Ching Jorge is the director for Programs and Research of the Bato Balani Foundation Inc., a nonprofit organization focused on uplifting the quality of education in the country. Email Ching at chingjorge@gmail.com.

Clueless in Congress, and the same alma mother

BETWEEN DEADLINES

ANYBODY HOME? THIS EARLY, NEOPHYTE REP. Rex Gatchalian of Valenzuela may need to reevaluate his office staff.

Early this week, a statement bearing his letterhead found its way to the House "buffet table" of press releases. In it, the son of "plastics king" William Gatchalian appeared to have unearthed front-page material in his one-month-old political career. He was condemning the SBMA's sale—for P5,000—of a brand-new Ford Explorer.

Seeking elaboration, this reporter phoned the office number printed on the statement. The honorable one was out, but a female staff member returned the call. "You wanted to ask about Tullahan," she repeatedly asked, referring to the condemned bridge in flood-prone Valenzuela.

Told that the questionable deal was in fact the subject of interest, she sounded irked and said it was not on her boss' radar. "Who sent it? The media office? He doesn't know anything about it."

C. Esguerra

* * *

MARINES LOSE THEIR APPETITE. It would have been the perfect photo op, as photojournalists call a stage-managed photo event: a "boodle fight" or outdoor lunch at the headquarters of the 1st Marine Brigade in Tabiawan, Basilan, with President Macapagal-Arroyo as guest. The President was on a morale-boosting visit to front-line troops hunting down the Abu Sayyaf Group.

Also present were AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon, Western Mindanao Command Chief Lt. Gen. Eugenio Cedo and Marine Commandant Maj. Gen. Nelson Allaga. A feast of curacha, a local crab, and lobsters, fish, rice and pancit lay waiting on the tables.

Photographers and TV cameramen positioned themselves, hoping to get that perfect shot of the President eating with her bare hands surrounded by a sea of camouflaged soldiers. Then she gave the signal for the start of the boodle fight. "Ready to the left?" she asked. "Whoa!" the Marines replied in unison. "Ready to the right?" "Whoa!"

Then—to the visible dismay of some of the Marines, who turned away from the tables—Basilan Gov. Jum Akbar, wife of Rep. Wahab Akbar, and ARMM Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan suddenly popped up beside the President, spoiling the perfect picture.

One soldier groused: "*Napasukan tayo ng* Abu Sayyaf." *E. Bacasmas*

* * *

THAT FAMOUS E-MAIL. If you have an e-mail account, chances are you've gotten at least one copy of a hilarious short story stitched together from Filipino-English malapropisms, the one that begins: "We've been friends for a long time ago. We come from the same alma mother."

As it turns out, "A Love Story" (re-titled "The?!" in some e-mails, "You're barking at the wrong leg" in others) was written as a joke by GMA-7 news reporters Tina Panganiban-Perez, Kara David, Ruth Cabal, Joseph Morong, Nelson Canlas and Aubrey Carampel. Gosh, you can never can tell.

Some of the malapropisms, connect me if I am wrong, can be traced to a beauty queen, an actress-turned-politician, even a former President. But most of those included in what is possibly the year's most forwarded e-mail were coined by these creative journalists, while killing time in coverage or waiting for interviews. (Yes, it's true good to be true.)

Reporters at the Comelec beat saw it start. Once, barred from entering the Palacio del Gobernador to cover Lintang Bedol's first appearance before the commission following his arrest, they fumed when another reporter managed to sneak into the Comelec building. Under the searing midday sun, Perez quipped: "*Pag nakita natin siya sa taas, sabihin natin*: 'Well, well, well, look do we have here...'"

It was enough to crack up the agitated group, and other malapropisms were exchanged the rest of the day. By evening, Perez texted her colleagues a partial list of "Worlds of Wisdom." A few days later came the first version (as conceptualized by David) of "A Love Story."

The group later uploaded a longer version of the story on to their personal websites and blogs. Then it began to circulate on the Internet and by e-mail, reaching Vancouver, Hong Kong and Bangkok, among many other cities—without any attribution, however, to the authors or their websites. The nerd!

Issues over intellectual property rights notwithstanding, the group composed a sequel, titled "Sinetch si Jeff," and then a pressed release from "Genie-fer," the lovestruck girl in the first story, in a spirited defense of, well, her use of the English language.

"A Love Story" continues to gain in popularity. As for the authors, let's cut them some slacks. Perez said she and her friends want to make it known that they can speak good, grammatically correct English. "Worlds of Wisdom" is simply a diversion, albeit one that has become a rebounding success. *N. Dizon*

* * *

BLAST FROM THE PAST. From the Sept. 5, 1990 issue of the Philippine Daily Inquirer:

Some people would call it an oversight, while others believe it is the result of faulty decision-making. But either way, it seems that Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon is in trouble.

The problem involves Drilon's earlier promotion of about 30 prosecutors under his department. The promotions were approved by President Aquino, but Justice officials later found out that there are no funds for the fiscals' new adjusted salaries.

Drilon may yet find a way to get the needed money, said a source who revealed the ruckus. Only, the prosecutors now feel shortchanged. Such a mess could have been avoided had Frank's "bright boys" not committed such a silly blunder, adds the source.

The red mark

YOUNG BLOOD

Therese Anne Candolita

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.**

IT IS SO HARD TO HAVE PARENTS LIKE MINE. THEY hardly understand me, and they have the rare ability of making something bad even worse.

Not too long ago, I was torn between two choices as I stared at the single red mark on my report card. It was small, even hard to see when viewed from a short distance, but to me it was the biggest red thing I ever saw. When I first laid my eyes on it, my knees wobbled and tears started to well up in my eyes. The first thing that crossed my mind was, how would my parents react to this?

Why, you ask, is a red mark so powerful it almost made me want to pass out? It was the first time I got one, and the feeling was so different from celebrating my first birthday or receiving my first medal. I felt hurt, confused and angry all at the same time. All I wanted was to curl up into a little ball and disappear forever, leaving no trace behind.

All of my life I had been Miss Goody Two Shoes. I lived by the rules and I knew my limitations. This time I had this heavy burden of handing my report card over to my parents and I had to brace myself for whatever they might say. I memorized some lines to explain that red mark, but the more I replayed them into my mind, the drier my mouth became. Saying sorry would not undo the damage, I knew, but "sorry" was the only word that was closest to what I wanted to say.

Realizing that sent tears rolling down my cheeks. I discreetly wiped them off as curious passengers in the jeepney I was riding looked at me suspiciously.

The trip from my school to our house is quite a long one, but this time it felt like a blur. Much too soon, I had to get off and face my mother and father, and give them one of the biggest disappointments they would ever experience.

As I opened the gate to our house, I drew a long breath. There was no turning back. I felt like praying that nobody would be home, but that would have meant prolonging the mental torture. So scared was I that I wanted to get it over with.

When I entered our house, I saw my father reading the newspaper. He looked up as he sensed my entrance. I started to weigh my options: If I told him our report cards had not yet been released, I would be spending the whole night in bed tossing and turning guiltily. If I gave him the card, then my life would be officially over.

Filled with anxiety and trembling a little, I chose option No. 2. My life might be over if I let him know right away, but at least I would go to sleep a little more peacefully that night.

I showed the card to my father and forgot all the explanations I was supposed to say. From my mouth came a jumble of words, telling him half of our class got red marks, our teacher was a terror, I was lucky I only got one red mark, my final grade was still high even though I got that one bad grade. "I'm so sorry," I kept repeating.

My father was upset—more than upset, really. I couldn't blame him. I knew it was my fault, and I was even angry at myself, so how could I expect him to react differently?

Minutes later, my mother arrived. She was in such an upbeat mood that I felt my spirit sag at the thought of telling her what she had to know.

She found out soon enough, but she refused to see my grades. She said that learning I had failed in an important subject was more than she could take.

That made me feel worse, because my grades in the other subjects were just fine. But then again I knew I didn't have the right to feel bad, because I was the one who brought trouble upon myself.

Of course, I understood the reaction of my parents. I had really been careless, and my grades reflected my performance in school.

But that was then. And now, here I am in third year high school and striving even harder to show my parents that they can be proud of me. That I'm not just somebody who can be pushed around and taken for granted. *Kumbaga, meron talaga akong ibubuga.*

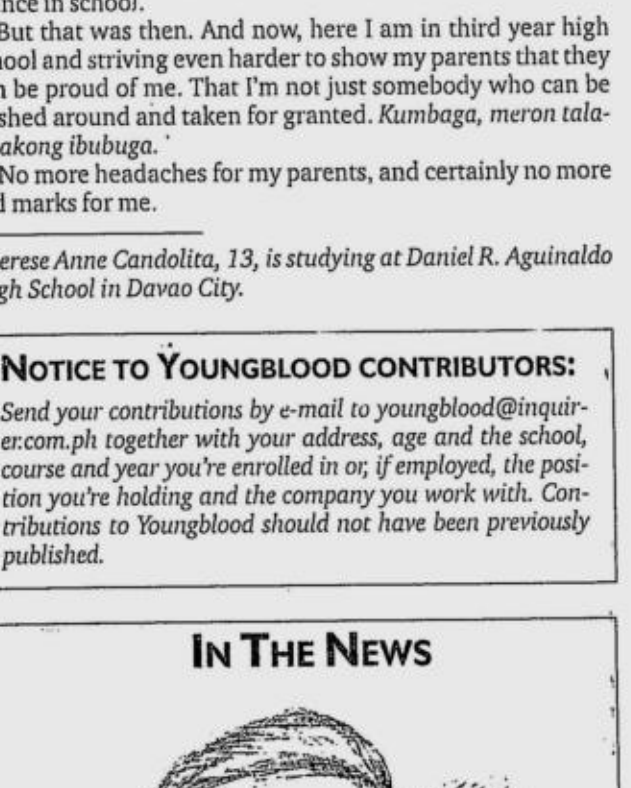
No more headaches for my parents, and certainly no more red marks for me.

Therese Anne Candolita, 13, is studying at Daniel R. Aguinaldo High School in Davao City.

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

Send your contributions by e-mail to youngblood@inquirer.com.ph together with your address, age and the school, course and year you're enrolled in or, if employed, the position you're holding and the company you work with. Contributions to Youngblood should not have been previously published.

IN THE NEWS



Jose Ma. Sison

mercury drug
MANANAISIGURO BANGOT AY LAGING BABA
DISCOUNTS FOR SUKI CARD HOLDERS!
mercury drug Suki Card 666 666 666
SUKI SABADO SPECIAL
SEPT 1 to 7, 2007
Per DOH-BFAD Permit No 0951 s.2007

BLACK BEAUTY SHAMPOO & CONDITIONER
10ML REG.PRICE: P 9.75 PAY ONLY P 8.75
120ML REG.PRICE: P 90.25 PAY ONLY P 81.25
356ML REG.PRICE: P 295.25 PAY ONLY P 265.75

PHENYLPROPANOLAMINE HCL CHLORPHENIRAMINE MALEATE PARACETAMOL
BIOFLU TABLET
10s REG.PRICE: P58.75 PAY ONLY P55.00
PER TABLET REG.PRICE: P 5.90 PAY ONLY P5.50
Adverse Reaction: Paracetamol may cause liver damage esp. in alcoholics

MULTIVITAMINS MINERALS • AMINO ACIDS
REVICON FTE TABLET
(In Bot) 30s REG.PRICE: P120.00 PAY ONLY P117.00
PER TABLET (In foil) REG.PRICE: P 4.00 PAY ONLY P3.75

MULTIVITAMINS ENRICHED • CORELLINE • ROYAL JELLY
REVICON MAX SOFTGEL CAPSULE
PER CAPSULE (In foil) REG.PRICE P12.00 PAY ONLY P11.50

MULTIVITAMINS
ENERVON C TABLET
PER TABLET (In foil) REG.PRICE:P4.95 PAY ONLY P 4.75
(In Bottle) 30s REG.PRICE: P148.25 PAY ONLY P141.00

CREAMSILK CONDITIONER
Itch & Dandruff Free * Protect & Revitalize
100ML REG PRICE: P54.50 PAY ONLY P51.75
200ML REG PRICE: P99.75 PAY ONLY P94.75
CREAMSILK CONDITIONER
Thick & Strong * Straight & Relaxed
100ML REG PRICE: P46.50 PAY ONLY P44.00
200ML REG PRICE: P82.50 PAY ONLY P78.25

CLOSE UP TOOTHPASTE
Lemon Mint * Menthol Chill * Red Hot
25ML REG.PRICE: P17.50 PAY ONLY P16.50
50ML REG.PRICE: P32.00 PAY ONLY P30.25
100ML REG.PRICE: P50.50 PAY ONLY P47.75

CLOSE UP TOOTHPASTE
MILK CALCIUM Nutrient
25ML REG PRICE: P19.25 PAY ONLY P18.25
50ML REG.PRICE: P35.25 PAY ONLY P33.50
100ML REG.PRICE: P55.75 PAY ONLY P52.75

Suki Card Program Guidelines:
1. Suki Card Program is available to all customers over 18 years old.
2. To receive a Suki Card, customer must present receipt(s) of single or accumulated purchases worth P1,000.00 made from any Mercury Drug stores.
3. Suki Card Members are entitled to discounts from participating products.
4. All purchases made through the Suki Card will earn points. Every purchase worth P200.00 is equivalent to 1 point.
5. Mercury Drug Suki Points are redeemable in multiples of 10 points. Every Suki Point is equivalent to P1.00.
6. Always present your Suki Card before making purchases.
7. Mercury Drug reserves the right to modify or restrict the usage of the card without prior notice.

The Suki Card program is available in all branches in Metro Manila including Bulacan (except Bulacan Cainta, Laguna (except San Pablo) Rizal, Visayas, Mindanao and selected branches in Luzon: Baguio Abanao, Baguio Magsaysay, Baguio Session, Baguio Porta Vaga, BU Arcade Dagupan, Cabanatuan Circumferential Rd, Cabanatuan Del Pilar, Cabanatuan Maharlika, Candaguan I, Cortez, Dipol Lubban, Dipol Pandan, Dagupan AB Fernandez, Dagupan Arellano Ext, Dagupan Perez Blvd., Gapan Tinio Mabiga, Guimba A Salvador, Inga JP Rizal, La Trinidad Kmb, Labo Lubbuh, Legaspi Old Albay, Legaspi Rizal, Muñoz Anos Santos, Nzaro, Naga Abella, Naga Ave Square, Naga F Arejolos, Naga Panganiban, Polangui Utotlle, Robinsons Starmall Pampanga, Sindy LU Quezon, Sindy LU Rizal, San Jose Maharlika, Tarlac Zara, Tuguegarao Maharlika, Tarlac C Barrios, Tarlac Juan Luna, Tarlac Romulo, Tarlac Tarlac, Tayug Quezon & Watermelon Gapan.

Revise Anti-Wiretapping Act

LETTERS TO THE INQUIRER

LOST IN THE MIDST OF THE GARCI tapes controversy is an anomalous situation in Republic Act 4200, (Anti-Wiretapping Act).

The law is good in that it protects against illegal intrusion into people's right to privacy of conversation. The law is bad in that it bans all kinds of wiretaps unless authorized by a written order issued by a judge.

Consider this dreadful situation. Your child is kidnapped. You receive a telephone call from the kidnapper who lets you hear your child's crying voice. He demands ransom money. He instructs you not to call the police. He calls you in 30 minutes to know if you have raised the money and gives directions of where, when and how the ransom will be delivered by you.

Since it is impossible to go to court to get a written order within 30 minutes, you wiretap your phone. You record the kidnapper's voice and ransom instructions. Because of the recorded conversation, the police are able to investigate and arrest the kidnapper.

Who goes to jail? The kidnapper? No. You go to jail.

All because RA 4200 absolutely bans the use of illegally wiretapped evidence in a court of law or in any criminal, civil or administrative proceedings.

The prosecutor cannot introduce the wiretapped voice of the kidnapper as evidence to prove the identity of, and instructions given, by the kidnapper. Lawyers love to call this, "the fruit of the poisonous tree." Therefore, inadmissible evidence. The kidnapper is set free.

The kidnapper turns the tables on you. He sues you for violation of RA 4200 because you wiretapped him without a written court order. You, the victim of the crime, go to jail.

RA 4200 admits of no exception to wiretapped conversations. The only legal use of wiretapping is when authorized in writing by a judge who must first interview you to see if his order to wiretap is justified.

RA 4200 must be amended to admit of some exceptions such as the one just described.

—LEONARD DE VERA,
chair, Equal Justice For All (EJUST),
Unit Penthouse B, Windsor Tower,
163 Legazpi St., Legazpi Village,
Makati City 1229

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@ inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Study and avoid repeat of Mindanao mistakes

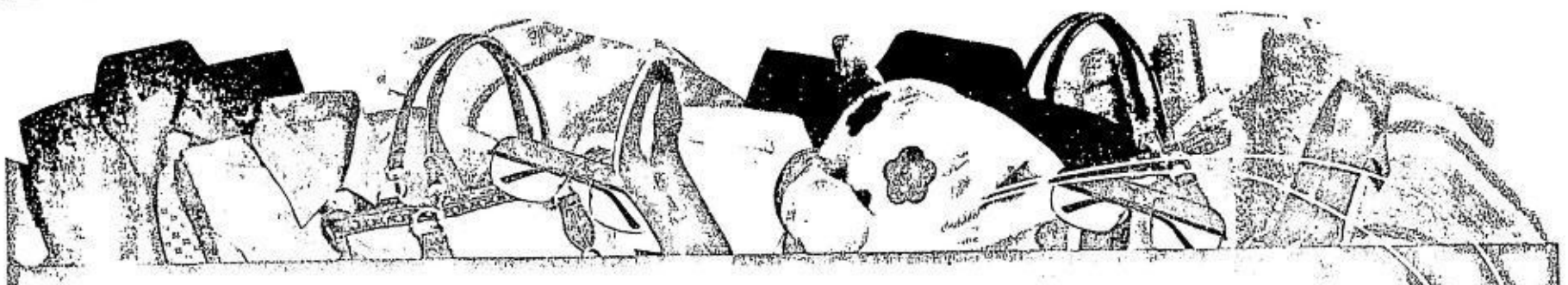
I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON THE conduct of war in Mindanao. I believe the recent setbacks should be studied in order not to repeat the mistakes. More effort should be made in the launching of assaults on the secessionists. The Marines, after all, are not factory goods.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines has great potential and it can crush such resistance in so small an area. It should not compromise; doing so would just show the rebels how effective they are.

If we want a peaceful state, then the secessionists should be won over either through diplomacy or through the rattle of guns. No state became a great nation without making great sacrifices.

I praise President Macapagal-Arroyo for putting into action one item on her agenda. She, after all, is the leader.

—DIEGO GABRIEL TORRES,
supremo_torres@yahoo.com



SM DEPARTMENT STORE
Makati
Las Piñas
San Lazaro
Pampanga
Lipa

3DAY SALE
AUG 31 • SEPT 1 • 2
up to 50% OFF great selections

Get a chance to win one of 100 Air Coolers
20 winners per branch

portable evaporative • 4-side cooling pads • cools up to 75sqm • low power consumption • every P500 purchase gives you the chance to win
See mechanics poster for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3750, Series of 2007

Plus! Enjoy 5% REBATE when you use your BDO CREDIT CARD with a minimum purchase of P3,000 or 0% interest on 3 months installment for P5,000 purchase

ZTE officials see Abalos as a very powerful man

By Norman Bordadora
and Riza Olchondra

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS chair Benjamin Abalos was an influential administration figure and this was why executives of the Chinese-based ZTE Corp. cultivated his friendship before they cut a $330-million broadband deal with the Philippine government, opposition Rep. Carlos Padilla alleged yesterday.

The Nueva Vizcaya congressman said Abalos had an associate in the Department of Transportation and Communication, Assistant Secretary Lorenzo Formoso III, who has emerged as one of the staunch defenders of the now controversial national broadband network (NBN) project.

He said that Formoso used to be Abalos' resident computer expert in the Comelec's technical task force on election computerization, the same task force that furnished the technical explanation for why the Comelec refused to implement the election computerization law.

"He [Formoso] was the connection," Padilla said.

According to Padilla, Formoso is the DOTC official who claimed at a round-table discussion at the Ateneo Professional Schools in Makati earlier this year that the ZTE-NBN contract had been lost along with four other agreements that were signed in Boao, China last April.

Asked why ZTE executives would want to pursue Abalos to help them with the NBN deal, Padilla said foreign businessmen doing business in any country "automatically" look for patrons in the government.

"[The patron] doesn't have to be a high-ranking executive. He can just be someone who has access to the powers-that-be," he said.

Contacted for comment, Formoso denied having ever worked at the Comelec. He said he worked at the Commission on Information and Communications Technology (CICT), which acted as a technical adviser to the poll body on election automation.

"I don't even know Abalos that well. I only met the guy about three times, all within the context of the technical advisory council created before the elections and only on behalf of my boss, [the CICT head] Secretary Ramon Sales," he said.

"I was there to assist my boss and to act as spokesperson, since he chaired the council as CICT head," said Formoso, a lawyer who is an assistant secretary at the DOTC and concurrent commissioner of the CICT.

The other members of the council were representatives from the Department of Science and Technology, the Philippine Computer Society, the Philippine Electronics and Telecommunications Federation, the Chief Information Officers Forum Inc., the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting, and the Consortium on Electoral Reforms.

According to Formoso, the CICT had already endorsed the ZTE proposal to the DOTC before he served on the Comelec technical advisory council from December 2006 until late January or early February this year.

"Besides, as undersecretary, I am not so powerful that I can influence my bosses to endorse one company instead of another. It's so unbelievable that I am that powerful," he said.

"The problem here is that anyone can just say anything. He [Padilla] is hiding behind parliamentary immunity, so I cannot defend myself," he said.

He said he would abide by government guidelines should there be an official inquiry or a court hearing.

"Let the courts decide," he said.

Padilla said that he would reveal all the information he has on how Abalos may have allegedly helped ZTE to clinch the deal, presumably in a privilege speech or a congressional investigation.

"Chairman Abalos should explain why he was in China playing golf at a time when his fellow commissioners were busy with the upcoming elections," Padilla said.

"It was the height of the preparations for the May elections and the Comelec had manpower issues. Why would he go to China?" he said.

Padilla said if Abalos was not the Comelec official referred to by Philippine Star columnist Jarius Bondoc, it means "there were two election officials who had holidays in China while the elections were at hand."

"I've information that Abalos indeed went to China right before the elections," Padilla said.

In an Aug. 27 column, Bondoc wrote that a Comelec official had negotiated the ZTE deal while playing golf and spending time with women in Shenzhen.

Padilla said he expects the House committees probing the NBN deal to invite Bondoc to the hearings to identify who the election official in his piece was.

"That's the reason why I mentioned him in my privilege speech. To lay the basis for his invitation," Padilla said.

"My privilege speech was Chapter One. I was able to show that Abalos met with ZTE officials but I didn't know their agenda. Jarius Bondoc's column was Chapter Two. He showed that a Comelec official met with ZTE officials and discussed the NBN deal but he failed to name the official," he added.

"It is now up to the people to draw their conclusion by implication," Padilla said.

Teves: Abalos set meeting with ZTE

From page A1

The Department of Finance is the agency responsible for discussing the terms of a loan for any government project.

Teves said the DOF's only concern is with the terms of the loan, whether these would be disadvantageous to the government and whether these were competitive.

He said the DOF has nothing to do with the process of selecting contractors for government projects.

The ZTE Corp., China's third largest telecommunications firm which is backed by the Chinese government, won the $329-million contract for the NBN project aimed at linking government agencies throughout the country through a common electronic backbone.

Rushed and inferior

Critics of the NBN deal said it was dubious because it was rushed and ZTE's offer was inferior to those of other interested parties. Amsterdam Holdings Inc. (AHI) and the US-based Arescom Inc. reportedly offered to build a similar network for only $242 million and $135 million, respectively.

Opposition Rep. Carlos Padilla, in a privilege speech last Wednesday, alleged that Abalos brokered the deal for ZTE with the Philippine government. The Nueva Vizcaya congressman alleged that Abalos was seen playing golf with ZTE officials in Manila and Shenzen, China. He also alleged that the Comelec chair had received lavish gifts and women from his Chinese hosts.

Golfing tradition

In earlier reports, Abalos admitted to being golfing buddies with ZTE officials and that the latter paid for his trips to China. He said there was nothing wrong with the visits as they were part of golfing tradition, "I foot their bills when they come here."

He denied that his Chinese hosts had supplied him with women in Shenzen.

Abalos also denied having had a hand in ZTE's dealings with the Philippine government on the NBN project.

He said all he did was help the ZTE officials obtain an audience with Teves as he found the ZTE proposal favorable for the Philippines.

At a press conference yesterday, the embattled Abalos surmised that a Comelec official—largely suspected to be him—was being linked to the now controversial national broadband network deal because the contract is alleged to have been signed at a time when there was an election ban against the signing of government contracts.

Ban during election campaign

"The suspicion is because allegedly this contract was signed during the election period. That is why the suspicion of a Comelec official act came in. I'm trying to study it, and allegedly that was the time of my visit there [China]," he said.

On April 21, 2007, at the height of the campaign for the May 14 midterm elections, Mendoza and Yu Yong, the ZTE vice president, signed the P329-million deal in ceremonies witnessed by President Macapagal-Arroyo in Boao, China.

That same day, Trade Secretary Peter Favila signed on behalf of the Department of Education a $460-million contract with Chinese authorities for a satellite-based backbone for the Philippines' cyber education project.

The Omnibus Election Code and a supporting Comelec resolution prohibit government agencies from entering into contracts for public works projects, the disbursement of government funds, and transfers and appointments of government personnel to avoid the possibility of these being used to influence the election campaign.

Exceptions

Exemptions may be made for contracts or disbursement of funds if these are to be used in response to a calamity or disaster, and these must be done with the consent of the Comelec.

Yesterday was the first time that Abalos acknowledged that the election ban on contracts could be a possible reason why a Comelec official was being linked to the controversial deal.

Abalos said the Comelec en banc had given him the authority to decide whether exemptions should be granted during the May electoral campaign. His decisions were later reviewed by the entire commission, he said.

But he stressed that the Comelec never issued any clearance for the ZTE Corp. contract as no request for an exemption was made by any government agency.

"That's why I'm being suspected. I am telling you now, we have not issued any clearance or any exemption for that matter," Abalos said.

Additional credit

Another controversy has put the NBN project in the headlines following the signing last week of an additional $400 million in preferential buyers' credit from the China Export-Import Bank.

Favila, who witnessed the signing, said the additional amount was not particularly intended for the $329-million NBN project.

"China has extended this [credit line that now totals $1.4 billion] to help in our development efforts. It is up to us which priority projects would benefit from this funding," he said.

He said the NBN project was not even mentioned during the signing ceremony last Saturday which was attended by Chinese Commerce Minister Bo Xilai.

"We talked about updates on the Northrail project, which was the first project to avail of funds from [the loan package from China]," he said.

Mentioned NBN in passing

But he said the NBN project was mentioned during a private conversation with Bo, which was "entirely not related" to the signing of the additional loan.

"He [Bo] told me that China is supportive of the initiatives of both ZTE Corp. and Huawei—the firms vying to do the NBN project—considering what they have done in other countries," Favila said.

He said ZTE and Huawei were the biggest telecommunications companies in China, and both have undertaken even bigger projects outside the mainland.

"The NBN project is actually a small project for them," he said.

Next step

With the $400-million Chinese Eximbank loan facility, the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) said the next step is for the Department of Finance to work out project-specific financial details.

"As far as I know the one signed is just a blanket loan facility. It is not yet the loan agreement specific to the project," said Transportation and Communications Assistant Secretary Lorenzo Formoso.

Teves said the DOF was still in the process of discussing loan terms with the Chinese Eximbank for the funding of the NBN project. He said the project would be unable to push through unless the DOF finds loan terms that are favorable for the government and formally approves them.

"The loan is a major component of the project. Without the loan agreement, the project cannot be implemented. We have to make sure that the terms of the loan are legally sound and justifiable. We are going to study it thoroughly," Teves said.

Having the loan facility means the Chinese government has already allotted $400 million to lend to the Philippines, but that the amount is not yet tied to any project, he said.

Teves said that after a loan facility is made available, that is the only time when the government can start discussing what projects are to be financed by that loan, and what will be the terms of the loans.

No bidding required

At the signing of the loan facility last Saturday, Mendoza stressed that no bidding was required for the NBN project, citing a Department of Justice opinion affirming the validity of the executive agreement covering the project.

The transport secretary also said the project does not need a sovereign guarantee since the government itself is getting the loan.

Favila said a congressional investigation into the controversial NBN project may be a good thing if only to clarify issues and answer questions once and for all.

"If it can be shown clearly that everything is aboveboard, then maybe we can let the matter rest and allow the project to proceed without any more controversy," Favila said in an interview.

"I gather that [Transportation and Communications] Secretary Leandro Mendoza is prepared to go through a hearing in Congress. I believe this is the way to go," he said. *With a report from Riza T. Olchondra*

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Office of the Secretary
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
2/F Building 1, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, 1003 Manila
Trunk Line 743-83-01 local 1625; 1626 • Telefax: 741-97-75
URL: http://www.doh.gov.ph

Invitation for Bids

Republic of the Philippines
IBRD-Assisted Second Women's Health and Safe Motherhood Project

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT, PERIPHERALS AND SOFTWARE
IFB NO. WB-2007-10-3 (26)
Loan No. 7290-PH

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has applied for a Loan from the World Bank toward the cost of IBRD-Assisted Second Women's Health and Safe Motherhood Project and intends to apply of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for the Procurement of Information Technology Equipment, Peripherals and Software under IFB No. WB-2007-10-3 (26).
2. The Department of Health (DOH) now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the above-mentioned Goods. Delivery of the GOODS is required by thirty (30) calendar days. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. The procurement will be conducted through the government open competitive procedures specified under the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of the Republic Act No. 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the Government Procurement Act, with some amendments as stated in these Bidding Documents. The estimated project cost is Four Million One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Philippine Pesos (PhP4,115,500.00).
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the COBAC Secretariat and inspect the Bidding Documents at the 2nd Floor, Bldg. 6, Procurement Division, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mondays to Fridays.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of One Thousand Philippine Pesos (PhP1,000.00). The method of payment will be on a cash basis only. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
6. The *DOH* will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on September 21, 2007, 10:00 a.m. at the address given below.
7. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before 10:00 a.m., October 3, 2007. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the following form and amount in Pesos or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Form of Bid Security	Minimum Amount in % of the Estimated Project Cost for the Contract for the item/s for which Bid is Submitted
Cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit	Package I – PhP 21,800 (illegible) Package II – PhP 4,830.00 Package III – PhP 575.00 Package IV – PhP 3,000.00 Package V – PhP 2,250.00 Package VI – PhP 8,000.00 Package VII – PhP 700.00
Bank guarantee	Package I – PhP 32,700.00 Package II – PhP 7,245.00 Package III – PhP 882.50 Package IV – PhP 4,500.00 Package V – PhP 3,375.00 Package VI – PhP 12,000.00 Package VII – PhP 1,050.00

8. Bid opening shall be on October 3, 2007, 10:00 a.m. at the address given below. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
9. The *DOH* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

COBAC CONFERENCE ROOM
Ground Floor, Building 6
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Facsimile number: 7419775
Trunkline Number: 7438301 local 1625 and 1626

(Sgd.) ALEXANDER A. PADILLA
Undersecretary of Health and
COBAC Chairperson

(PDI–Sept. 1, 2007)

Home Guaranty Corporation
Office of the President

INVITATION TO BID

The HOME GUARANTY CORPORATION (HGC) is offering for sale, in cash or installment, the "leasehold rights" of the following properties:

	PROPERTY LOCATION	TYPE	FLOOR AREA	SELLING PRICE	REMARKS
1	APEC Villa No. 9 Triboa Bay, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City	one storey house	436	32,471,210.00	fully furnished, vacant
2	APEC Villa No. 10 Triboa Bay, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City	two storey house	440	31,872,320.00	fully furnished, vacant
3	APEC Villa No. 11 Triboa Bay, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City	two storey house	433	31,982,875.00	fully furnished, vacant

General Guidelines:

1. The sale of the property shall be on an **"AS-IS-WHERE-IS"** basis.
2. All proposals shall be submitted on or before September 10, 2007 at 2:00 P.M.
3. All bidders may offer to buy the property in cash or installment term. Only cash sales shall be entitled to discounts:
4. Terms of Payment
   - 4.1. For **CASH SALE**, the following discount rates apply:
     10%, spot cash
     6%, if paid in full within 30 days from signing of sales documents
     4%, if paid in full within 60 days from signing of sales documents
     2%, if paid in full within 90 days from signing of sales documents
   - 4.2 For **INSTALLMENT SALE** (discounts are not applicable)
     10% minimum downpayment
     Balance payable in equal monthly installments over a maximum of twenty (20) years at eight percent (8%) interest per annum
   - 4.3 **LEASE TO OWN**
     Maximum Term – Five (5) years
     Minimum Rental Rate – P100,000.00
     Other conditions:
     a. Rental payments shall be credited to the total selling price depending on which year the option to buy is exercised:

Period within which lessee may exercise option to buy	% Application
1st year	100
2nd year	90
3rd year	80
4th year	70
5th year	60

     b. Annual escalation rate on monthly rental fee : 6%
     c. Other standard terms and conditions under HGC's Rent-To-Own Program
5. Bidding documents can be secured from the Asset Management Disposition Group located at the 4th Floor Jade Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P5,000.00.
6. The sealed bids should be dropped in the designated drop box located at the Asset Management Disposition Group, 4th Floor Jade Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City on or before September 10, 2007.
7. All bidders are enjoined to inspect the property before submitting their bids.
8. The award of the sale covering the property shall be based on the offer determined to be most advantageous to the Corporation.

For inquiries, please call our Marketing and Sales Department at 896-04-25 of 897-31-49 or visit our Head Office at the Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

THE CORPORATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL OFFERS AND TO WAIVE ANY DEFECTS OR TO ACCEPT SUCH OFFERS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CORPORATION.

(SGD.) RAFAEL P. DE LOS SANTOS
VICE PRESIDENT
ASSET MANAGEMENT AND
DISPOSITION GROUP

(PDI–Sept. 1 & 2, 2007)

AFP parades full force in run-up to Erap verdict

INCOMING commandant of the Philippine Marines, Maj. Gen. Ben Dolorfino, inspects Marines Ready Force, Disaster Response Task Units for floods, lahar, conflagration, earthquake and volcanic eruption on Friday at the BNS parade grounds in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. REM ZAMORA

From page A1

Metro Manila as a clear case of an "overkill and paranoia."

He expressed confidence he would be acquitted of the charges against him.

"If the basis of the decision by the Sandiganbayan would be the evidence and testimony presented by the defense, it's 100 percent I will be acquitted," Estrada said in an interview aired over radio dzLT-AM in Lucena City.

He added: "If the decision would not be tainted with political color, I'm very sure that I will be acquitted and vindicated."

Estrada, detained in his resthouse in Tanay, Rizal, assailed the government for spreading fears about supposed destabilization plots by his supporters.

Only ducks for company

"Those are all lies," he said. "I don't have anybody to talk to here in Tanay except my ducks ... How can I orchestrate destabilization plots?"

Should he be acquitted, Estrada said he would no longer contest the legitimacy of President Macapagal-Arroyo's administration.

"I don't want further trouble," he said.

The AFP and the Philippine National Police have been placed on alert ahead of the Sandiganbayan verdict.

"We are now ready for any contingency that may happen. The objective is to maintain peace, order and stability in the NCR," new Marine commandant Maj. Gen. Ben Dolorfino said after yesterday's military show of force.

Worst-case scenario

Dolorfino, who was the AFP NCRCom chief before he assumed command of Marines, has said the worst-case scenario that could happen after the Sandiganbayan issues its verdict on the Estrada case would be a repeat of the May 1, 2001 attack by mobs of Estrada supporters on Malacañang.

Dolorfino said the troops had been planning and preparing for over a month for contingencies like civil disturbances, destabilization attempts and natural disasters.

Inspections

At Camp Aguinaldo, AFP Vice Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Antonio Romero and Dolorfino inspected helicopters, armored personnel carriers, 6 by 6 military trucks and the NCRCom troops.

At Fort Bonifacio, Dolorfino inspected not only troops and their armor but also ambulances and communication vans.

Dolorfino said that 400 soldiers would be deployed for antiriot operations at the promulgation of the Estrada verdict, which is expected in legal circles to occur in the next two weeks.

These soldiers will be deployed at the Sandigan office in Quezon City and in Malacañang, he said.

'Be Marines again'

In a speech, Dolorfino urged his troops to remain apolitical.

He also took a dig at Marines who may be planning to destabilize the government, asking them instead "to come home and be true Marines again."

Dolorfino, a Muslim convert, told his men "not to be discouraged by the recent trials that beset the Corps, particularly in Basilan."

Twenty-nine Marines were killed in recent clashes with Moro guerrillas and bandits in Basilan, including 10 who were beheaded.

Cracks in armor

Dolorfino acknowledged that the events of Dec. 29, 1989 and Feb. 24-26, 2006—involving coup attempts and plots—"created cracks on the integrity of the Philippine Marine Corps."

"If there are still wayward minds out there, I enjoin you my brothers to come home and be true Marines once again," he said. "Let us be unified by the ideals enshrined in the Marine oath."

He also called on the Marines to respect civil liberties and said the Marine Corps "will never condone extrajudicial actions in dealing with the enemies of the state."

Puno sees no trouble

Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno, who served in the same post under Estrada, said he was in regular contact with the Estrada family.

"I don't know if he (Estrada) is planning anything. He is just waiting for the decision. We need to let the law take its course," Puno told reporters.

He also said he believed there would be no repeat of the 2001 siege of Malacañang by Estrada supporters, much less an attempt to destabilize the Arroyo administration.

Four people were killed while hundreds were wounded when pro-Estrada loyalists tried to storm Malacañang in 2004.

No real danger

"They (Estrada and family) are just hoping and praying for a favorable decision. I don't see plans for any destabilization. I hope there won't be any," said Puno.

He said he was talking with local officials and the PNP to coordinate security plans in anticipation of the verdict in Estrada's trial.

On the reported recruitment of members of the Magdalo group in the Bicol region, Puno said the PNP and the Armed Forces "are on top of this."

"Our job is to make sure these things don't happen. But I don't think there is any real danger. We are more than ready," Puno said.

The police and the military said they would deploy 6,000 policemen and soldiers to serve to meet the anticipated rallies by pro-Estrada forces. *With a report from Alcuin Papa*

EDSA looks like a war zone on Friday when a convoy of armored personnel carriers travel to Camp Aguinaldo. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

imagine the new star in motion pictures

Imagine no judder. No image distortion. No doubt the **Q9 plasma** experience strongly rivals that of a movie theatre's. With blockbuster-enhancing features like Ultra FilterBright, Natural True Colour and Real Motion Studio, this grand diva has everything to satisfy technology enthusiasts and movie buffs alike. With Samsung Q9, it's not that hard to imagine. **www.samsung.com/ph**

Ultra FilterBright

Natural True Color

Real Motion Studio

Plasma TV
PS42C9 (42")
PS50Q9 (50")

SAMSUNG

Samsung Customer Contact Center: **TOLL FREE 1-800-10SAMSUNG** for PLDT or 1-800-3SAMSUNG for Digitel.

We have Vatican support, says Meloto

From page A1

flagship housing program Gawad Kalinga, noted that the recognition of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) and the Vatican is with the group supporting Gawad Kalinga.

Meloto also downplayed the split as "*tampuhan lang yan*" further noting that Gawad Kalinga is not siding with any one side in the falling out. He stressed that Gawad Kalinga's work is toward nation building.

For nation building

"This will be resolved (CfC split issue) because we're all friends but the CBCP and the pontifical recognition of the Vatican is with the leadership of the international council of CfC that is fully supportive of the work of Gawad Kalinga," Meloto also said in the radio interview.

Other faction

But the other faction, the CfC Restoration Movement, is saying that neither of the two groups can claim the official Church recognition ahead of the release of the official communiqué of the body of the bishops that investigated the issue on the alleged "veering away of Gawad Kalinga from the vision-mission of the Couples for Christ."

"We would rather be prudent and wait for the official communiqué of the bishops so we can be more categorical on that issue," said Nonong Contreras, one of the four people currently in the interim committee organizing the CfC Restoration Movement. Contreras is also a former member of the Board of Elders of the international council of the CfC.

Meloto preempting bishops

Contreras noted, however, that nothing in the CBCP statement last Wednesday stated that the international council supportive of the Gawad Kalinga, Meloto's group, retains the CBCP recognition. Meloto's statement, he said, is preempting the bishops and is "just creating confusion."

The CBCP had confirmed the split within the CfC, one of the Catholic Church's largest lay movements in the world, last Wednesday after a closed-door meeting.

Frank Padilla

Contreras added that Frank Padilla, one of the cofounders of CfC in 1981 and now part of the CfC Restoration Movement, sits in the Pontifical Commission for the Faithful, the pontifical body responsible for the supervision of all lay communities all over the world.

Padilla, he also said, is the one that defended the CfC statutes before the CBCP that had eventually earned CfC the CBCP endorsement to be recognized by the Church hierarchy at the Vatican.

Open to reunification

Amid the falling out, representatives of both groups are saying that they are open to a possible reunification.

Contreras also said that despite the breakup of the two groups, they are always open to a dialogue.

"Our track record shows that we have exhausted all means to have a dialogue when tensions within the CfC are mounting. Our doors are always open to a dialogue," said Contreras.

AFP says NPA use similar aliases; there are 2 Delfin de Guzmans

From page A1

case, saying that the Delfin de Guzman who allegedly ordered a communist guerilla to tail the missing activist was different from the Delfin de Guzman, the alleged hitman of communist leaders Arturo Tabara and Romulo Kintanar.

Military information chief Lt. Col. Bacarro explained that the name Delfin de Guzman aka Ka Baste, was an alias often used by New People's Army leaders in Bulacan.

"The name 'Delfin de Guzman' was used as early as the 1980s and until now this name [would] still surface... purposely for NPA extortion activities," Bacarro told reporters.

"In Bulacan, when they hear the name Ka Baste, it connotes fear, because it has a history of violence," he added.

Similar aliases

According to Bacarro, the Delfin de Guzman whom confessed communist guerilla Emerito Lipio said ordered him to shadow Burgos, and the Delfin De Guzman presented last year by the military to the media as the assassin of Tabara and other communist leaders are "two different persons."

Burgos' mother Edita had accused the military of trying to muddle the case saying De Guzman could not have ordered Lipio to shadow her son since De Guzman was detained at that time.

Burgos' mother said she had learned that De Guzman was arrested in Norzagaray, Bulacan in May 2006 for his alleged involvement in the killings of Tabara and Kintanar.

Bacarro said AFP records would show that the military had arrested NPA members taking on similar aliases.

No cover-up

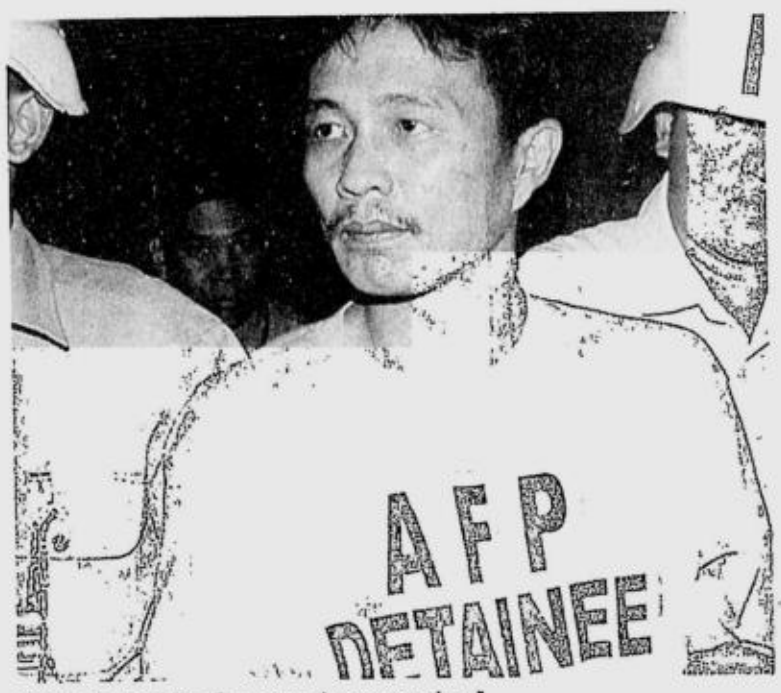
"There was a Delfin de Guzman who was apprehended in Cavite," he said.

"There is no such cover-up. Maybe it's better to ask Lipio because he was the one who identified De Guzman," Bacarro added.

On Tuesday, the Philippine National Police presented Lipio, Marlon Manuel and Melissa Concepcion Reyes to reporters. The three claimed they witnessed the abduction of Burgos on April 28 at the Ever Gotesco Mall at Fairview in Quezon City.

Lipio said the 36-year-old Burgos, son of the late publisher and press freedom icon Jose "Joe" Burgos, was an NPA political and intelligence officer in Bulacan.

Lipio said De Guzman had ordered him to tail Burgos because he was suspected of pilfering communist funds and was an agent of the military. He said he recognized two of the four people who seized Burgos, saying they were NPA members on a mission to purge him.



WILL the real De Guzman please stand up?

De La Salle University
DASMARIÑAS

College of Business Administration Graduate Studies

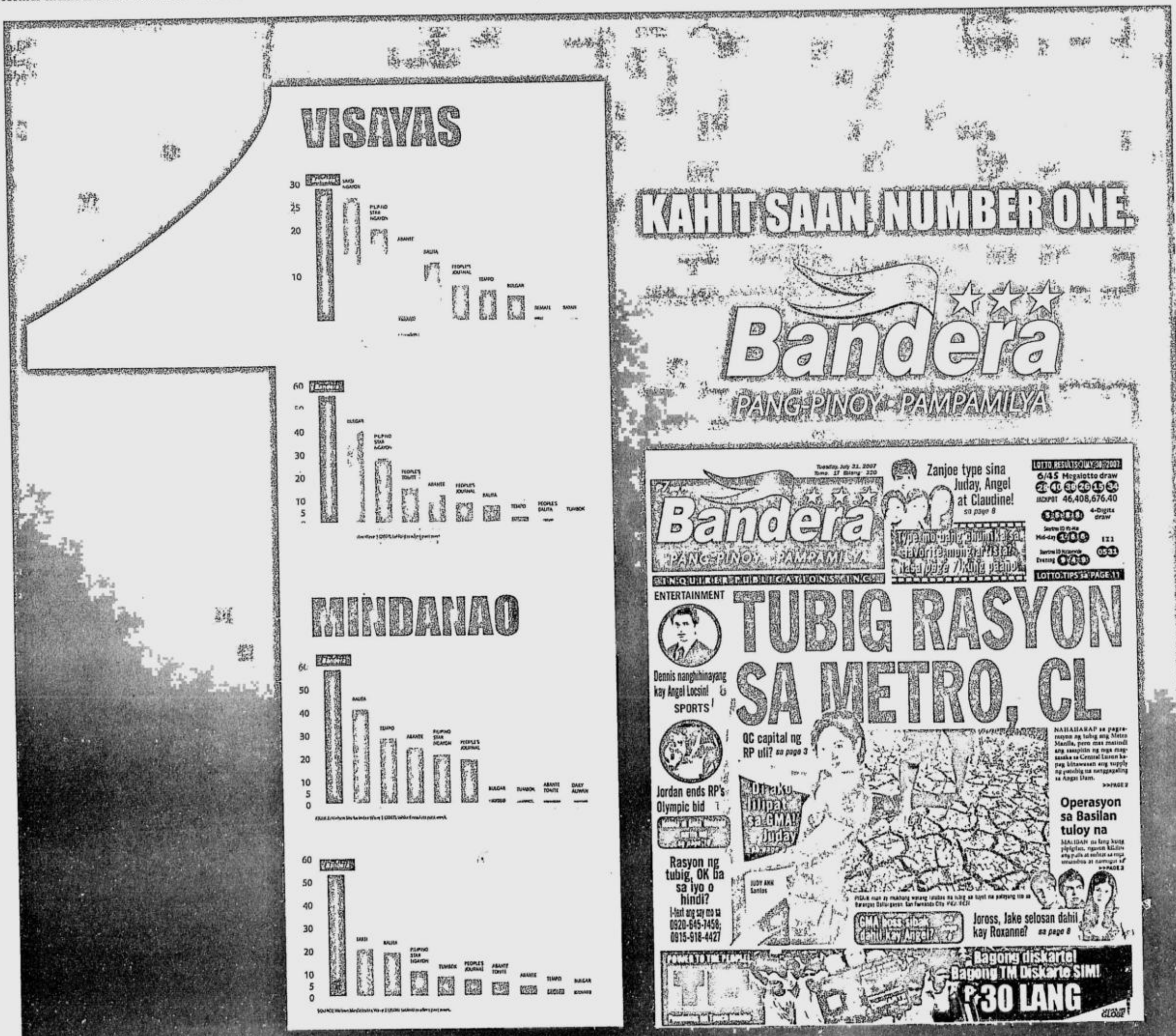
Courses offered:

Regular MBA & Techno MBA
(Thesis and Non-Thesis Program)
Executive MBA, Diploma in Business Administration and
Ph.D. in Business Administration

For inquiries, please e-mail us at
jigonzales@mail.dasma.dlsu.edu.ph /
mmmolina@mail.dasma.dlsu.edu.ph

you may also call (02) 844-7832, (046) 416-4541 to 42
local 3138/3180, telefax (046) 416-4565

Entrance examination starts August 21, 2007.
Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays to Saturdays
8:00am to 5:00pm. Enrollment for 2nd Term
SY 2007-2008 will be on September 15 to 29, 2007.



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2007

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Website: www.inquirer.net/regions

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

GMA urged: Make peace nat'l agenda

COTABATO CITY—THE MORO ISLAMIC LIBERAtion Front (MILF) has asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to treat the peace talks as a national agenda.

"This will make the peace negotiations succeed especially in the implementation phase," Muhammad Ameen, chair of the MILF secretariat, said in a statement.

The MILF official issued the statement two days before the 11th anniversary of the signing of the peace accord with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

Ameen said while the MILF does not recognize the Philippine Constitution as the basis for the settlement of decades-old Mindanao conflict, the MILF will not stop the government if it takes constitutional process in the successful implementation of whatever agreement is forged.

The peace process has been put on hold over disagreement on the number of villages to be placed under the Bangsamoro Juridical Entity.

The MILF wants more than 1,000 villages, including the present Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, to be under the BJE without the benefit of a plebiscite, but the government said it could only allow more than 600 villages.

The disagreements on the contentious issue brought the peace process to an impasse in September last year.

Both sides have not resumed formal peace talks since then.

Anticipating a peace deal before the year ends, Ameen said the MILF will wait for the government fulfillment of provisions of the upcoming peace accord.

Ameen said Ms Arroyo needs the support of Congress, Senate, Armed Forces, Catholic Church, civil society groups, the international community and all Filipino people.

He said the peace process is of national interest and should be considered a national agenda.

The so-called Moro problem has plagued Mindanao and the country for centuries despite the signing of a peace agreement on Sept. 2, 1996, between the Moro National Liberation Front and the government.

The Misuari-led MNLF claimed that the government failed to implement fully the provisions of the 1996 accord.

Malacañang denied it reneged on its role in the peace accord.

Ameen said the MILF would not come into an agreement with the government the way the MNLF did it.

He said the MILF leadership would not aspire for political positions in government but would focus on the full implementation of the peace agreement, if both sides come to an agreement. *Edwin O. Fernandez, Inquirer Mindanao*

A 20-FOOT MONUMENT made of brass of the late Jaime Cardinal Sin arrived last July 15 and is now on display at the public plaza in front of the Shrine of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary. ARNOLD ALMACEN/INQUIRER VISAYAS

'Ame' comes home to Aklan

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

NEW WASHINGTON, AKLAN—"AME," THEIR most prized and beloved son, has finally come home. Clad in their best dress and amid the tolling of bells and explosion of fireworks, over a thousand residents of this town welcomed the unveiling of the monument of Jaime Cardinal Sin yesterday, his 79th birthday.

"It's like he has gone home to us permanently," Dr. Ramon Sin, the late prelate's younger brother, told the INQUIRER.

The cardinal last visited his hometown in 2002, three years before he died, and his town mates had wanted his remains to be buried here. But Church tradition reserved him a slot at the crypt at the Manila Cathedral.

Best dresses

Aklanons came from all walks of life, rubbing elbows with the top officials of the land who crossed party lines to honor the spiritual and political leader considered as the key figure in two popular uprisings that restored and defended the country's democratic institutions.

Regalada Fernandez, 66, and Generosa Gonzalez, 64, stood out in their colorful embroidered *barong* at *saya*.

They said they agreed to look their best in the unveiling of the monument at the public plaza, recently renamed Jaime Cardinal L. Sin Park, at the poblacion of New Washington, around 9 km southeast of the capital town of Kalibo.

The two are not even Catholics. They belong to the Philippine Independent Church (Aglipayan Church) but they said they still attend Mass at the parish church, the Shrine of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary.

Fiesta

"We are here because he was very much loved by the people," they said.

Aklanons lined up the streets of Kalibo and New Washington greeting guests who joined the ceremonies. Small flags in the yellow and white colors of the Catholic Church were everywhere.

Leonila Dacoro-on, 76, a close friend of the late prelate who has been staying with the Sin family since 1944, said she felt sad when the bust arrived in the town weeks ago.

"But I am also happy because even if he is gone, we can now see him every time we pass by the plaza. It's as if he is still alive and with us," Dacoro-on said.

Antipolo Bishop Gabriel V. Reyes, an Aklanon who served as Sin's first secretary when he was appointed Archbishop of Manila, gave the homily in the way most people remember Sin most, sharing jokes and anecdotes.

Reyes recalled Sin's popular jokes that he did not fail to crack even at the Vatican with Pope John Paul II.

Dr. Ramon Sin also recalled his late brother's famous sense of humor. "If you are crying, he can make you laugh," he said.

Visit Singapore from Sept. 1 to Nov. 30 for a chance to win a return trip with your friends or family.

To qualify, one must be a Filipino tourist staying in Singapore for a minimum of 3 nights.

To register via SMS, simply text SING REG name/age/gender/address to 2366 or text SING for more info.

For further details on how to join and register online, visit www.taranasingapore.com.ph.

So call your travel agent and book your trip to Singapore now!

UNIQUELY Singapore

New task force seen vs smuggling of sugar

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—THE SUGAR Regulatory Administration (SRA) will initiate the creation of a sugar anti-smuggling task force to stop the entry of cheap, smuggled imported sugar.

SRA administrator Rafael Coscolluela, who took over James Ledesma, met with the leaders of the Philippine Sugar Alliance (PSA) Wednesday night to discuss how they could battle sugar smuggling.

Sugar and business leaders in Negros Occidental rejected Wednesday the petition for a P75 hike in daily wages, citing an expected drop in domestic farm gate sugar prices when the milling season starts in September because of an oversupply believed to be caused by smuggling.

The PSA offered to cover the cost of the anti-sugar smuggling task force but a detailed proposal will have to be drawn up on how many people and what kind of budget will be needed, he said.

The draft proposal will be presented to Anti-Smuggling Task Force chief Antonio Villar and later submitted to the President for approval, Coscolluela said.

Coscolluela said there are strong suspicions of sugar smuggling because a big reduction in the withdrawal of domestic sugar against the average demand has been noted.

Over the past few years, the actual demand for domestic sugar has been 1.9 million metric tons, he said.

However, the actual domestic sugar withdrawals, so far, has been only about 1.7 million metric tons, Coscolluela said.

Since the population has increased, the domestic demand for sugar would have increased also, he added.

Coscolluela said that sugar from sources outside the country could have been filing the domestic demand.

The PSA proposed that the SRA oversee the sugar anti-smuggling task force and he posed no objections, Coscolluela said.

He said world market prices of sugar have dropped to 9.4 cents per lb and that makes it very lucrative for smugglers to make a profit.

"We will work extensively to plug the holes where smuggling is detected," he said.

Farm gate sugar prices are expected to drop below P1,000 per 50 kilogram bag when the sugar milling starts.

Coscolluela said he is meeting with the Sugar Board on Tuesday to deliberate on the issuance of Sugar Order No. 1 to balance supply and demand and keep prices at reasonably profitable levels.

As SRA chief, he will discuss policy decisions with all stakeholders, he said.

Manuel Lamata, president of the United Sugar Producers Federation of the Philippines, said Coscolluela agreed to the PSA suggestion that no policies will be issued by the SRA without consultation with the alliance.

Coscolluela agreed that no single person would run the industry, Lamata said.

Meanwhile, the PSA has proposed that for this crop year, 66 percent of the country's sugar production be allocated as B for the domestic supply, 20 percent for C or reserve, eight percent for D or the world market and six percent for A or the US market, Lamata said.

COFFEE GRINDER
EV ESPIRITU/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON
Ibalois have always had a taste for coffee. This old woman from La Trinidad, Benguet grinds coffee beans that she picked from her own trees.

Veggie planters seek more accurate data

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—FOR this province, considered the salad bowl of the country, figures matter most to its vegetable industry, which continues to be wary of the threat of vegetable importation.

The accuracy of vegetable volume has pushed the Department of Agriculture into a collision course with the biggest traders' group at the vegetable trading post here over a July data that showed vegetable outflow to Manila.

Cesar Rodriguez, DA regional director for the Cordillera, recently furnished the Benguet Traders and Truckers Association (BTTA) a report that said the average daily volume of vegetables shipped from here to the metropolitan area was 653,239.09 kilograms.

The DA gathered the data from trucks that passed through Marcos Highway and Kennon and Naguilian roads, the three routes that pass through Baguio City en route to this capital town.

But the BTTA said the data may not be accurate.

Agusta Balanoy, BTTA liaison officer, said that based on the group's own monitoring, trucks hauled 1,178 metric tons of vegetables from here on July 6 alone.

The volume was loaded into 73 trucks that day—23 went to Divisoria, 28 to Balintawak and the rest to Southern Luzon.

Balanoy said close to 2 million kg are traded here daily and the DA's data may be conservative.

She said that all the vegetable industry's stakeholders must sit down together and arrive at a system on how to gather data that would zero in up to the last kilo of vegetable sold.

Vegetable industry leaders said the DA's agribusiness and marketing assistance division, BTTA, farmers, provincial agriculture office and the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS) must get involved in such endeavor.

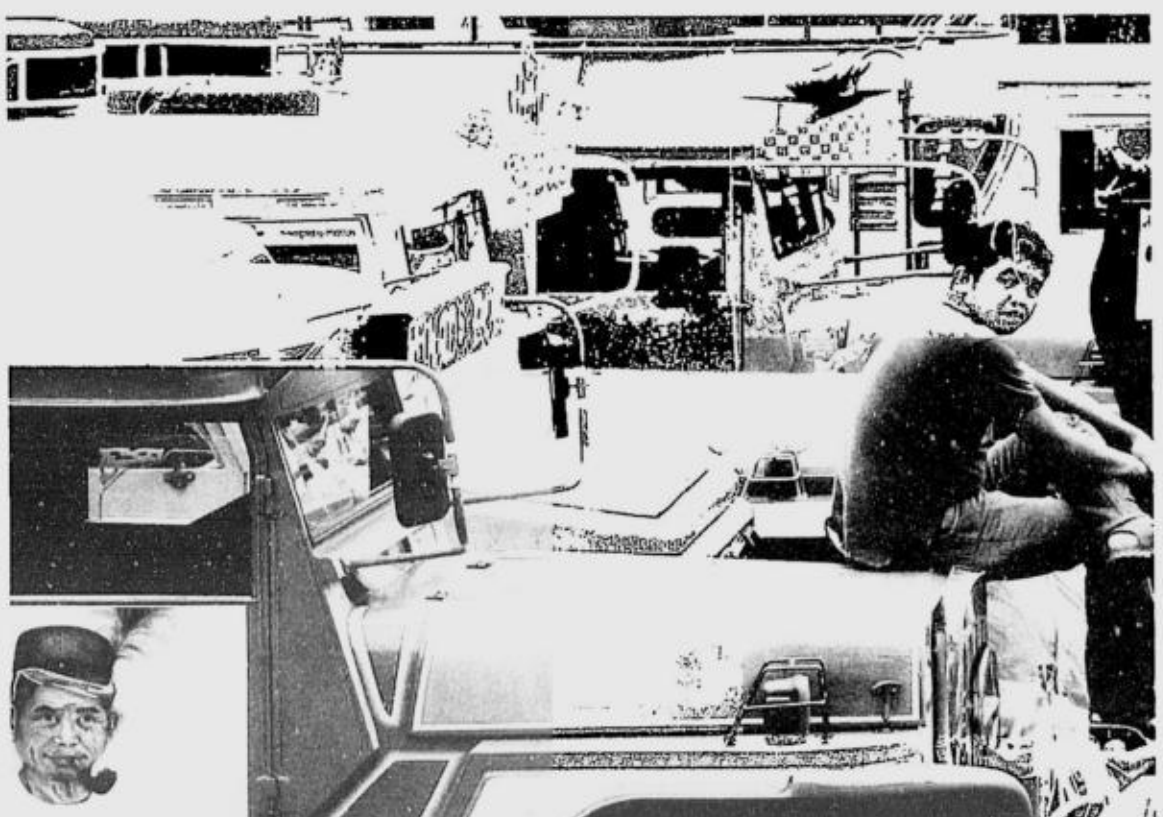
Gov. Nestor Fongwan said inaccurate data could create a false impression of a supply gap that would encourage big time traders to demand importation.

Earlier, the provincial government decided to streamline its procedure in disclosing information to media about the cost of vegetable damages brought about by typhoons.

Fongwan directed local agriculture officials to keep mum about damage costs unless they were verified and certified correct on the field by agriculture experts.

He said only the provincial disaster coordinating council chair must be the official spokesperson on damage cost in the province following a calamity.

The move, Fongwan said, was meant to prevent the release of conflicting damage data on the local level that would project a shortage in vegetable supply when played up by media. *Delmar Cariño, Inquirer Northern Luzon*



PUBLIC utility jeeps await passengers in Baguio City. The jeeps are used to transport goods, such as vegetables, from the country's vegetable capital, Benguet.
VINCENT CABREZA/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

ROUNDUP

DILG tapped for firetrucks

BOAC, Marinduque—Provincial board members here are seeking additional fire fighting equipment from the Department of Interior and Local Government after an inquiry on a fire, that razed a school building last month, showed that the town's fire station was ill-equipped.

The Boac Fire Station firetruck was still undergoing repair when fire gutted an 18-room, 2-story building of the Marinduque National High School, said provincial Board Member Ildefonso de los Santos.

"We hope the DILG could provide us with new and serviceable firetrucks for some of our municipalities," he added.

Gerald Gene R. Querubin, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Cops nab 6 boys in rape

BACOLOD CITY—Trusting her fellow rugby users who she thought were her friends, a 14-year-old street girl found herself gang-raped by six boys aged 15 to 17 years old during a rugby-sniffing session here on Aug. 20.

The girl, said she and the six boys, three of whom were her friends, were sniffing rugby when the boys, all of whom live in the streets, molested her in an abandoned lot in the city.

The girl told police that she screamed but the suspects covered her mouth, blindfolded her with a piece of cloth, and took turns in molesting her.

Police arrested three of the suspects, known by their aliases, "Excon," "Domino," and "Stephen," in a string of operations just minutes after the girl reported the rape Monday. They were still searching for alias "Jojo," "Michael," and "Casper." ***Carla P. Gomez, Inquirer Visayas***

Cafgu trainee found dead

LEGAZPI CITY—A trainee of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) was found dead on Aug. 20 at Sitio Pulot, Barangay Taysan here, a day after a Cafgu member was gunned down Sunday in Jovellar town in Albay.

Taysan barangay captain Benjamin Rosin found the dead Michael Aringo, 22, at a vacant lot in his village. Investigators said the victim was a Cafgu applicant under the 65th Infantry Battalion based in Barangay San Francisco of this city.

On Sunday, a Cafgu member identified as Ronaldo Aguilar was killed allegedly by New People's Army rebels, according to records from the Civil Relations Unit of the Armed Forces based in Camp Simeon Ola here.

Jaymee T. Gamil, Inquirer Southern Luzon

PAF man killed in ambush

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Two unidentified gunmen shot dead an active personnel of the Philippine Air Force along the national highway in Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas on Monday.

Sgt. Samuel Acar, 31, assigned at the Fernando Airbase in Lipa City, died from at least five bullet wounds in the body while being rushed to a nearby hospital.

Chief Insp. Sergio Manacop, Mataas na Kahoy police chief, said the victim had just left his house and was driving his jeep on his way to the PAF Headquarters when the two assailants appeared on the roadside of Barangay Manggahan at around 6:30 a.m.

Manacop said the gunmen, who were both armed with .45-cal. pistols, shot at the victim. Acar tried to maneuver his vehicle to safety but he apparently lost control. The assailants fled on board a motorcycle without license plate. ***Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon***

UP students walk out

BAGUIO CITY—About 150 students of the University of the Philippines Baguio walked out of their classes on Aug. 22 to protest the rise in tuition and to demand for increased education subsidy. The walkout coincided with the meeting of the UP Board of Regents at the Baguio campus.

Later during a dialogue with the students, UP President Emerlinda Roman said the increased subsidy for UP is shared not only by the Diliman, Los Baños and Manila campuses but the other UP units as well.

She said the UP student regent had proposed the temporary freeze on tuition increases, which were implemented starting this school year. The board has still to act on the proposal.

Vanessa Bianca Piedad and Angela Songco, Inquirer Northern Luzon

Teacher dies in fall from jeep

DAGUPAN CITY—A 64-year-old retired teacher died on Monday when she fell from the jeep her husband was driving at the national highway in Barangay Lucao here. Aurora Urbano did not survive the fall after her head hit the concrete pavement, police said.

Urbano and her husband, Mariano, 66, were on their way to the Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Memorial Hospital here for their regular check up when the accident happened.

Mariano told police that as he approached an intersection at Barangay Lucao, a van suddenly appeared in front of his vehicle, making him swerve to the left.

Mariano, however, lost control of his steering wheel and hit a parked truck at the other side of the road. Police said the impact caused Urbano to fall from the jeep. ***Gabriel Cardiñoza, Inquirer Northern Luzon***

Erap group hands over ₱1M to kin of slain Army men

LUCENA CITY—THE FAMILIES of two Army soldiers killed in Sorsogon province last week wept in gratitude as they received the P1-million financial assistance from former President Joseph Estrada's Saludo sa Kawal Pilipino Foundation (SKPF) in a ceremony here Friday.

Manuel "Beaver" Lopez, married to Estrada's daughter Jackie, handed the BPI-Pasig-Ortigas Branch manager's checks to Almira Martinez, widow of Cpl. Ronald P. Aurellana and Raymunda Badaguas, widow of Cpl. Jerry Badaguas.

Almira, Aurellana's common-law wife, received P500,000 while Raymunda got P300,000. Badagua's mother, Proserfina also received P200,000.

The two soldiers were killed in an ambush by suspected New People's Army rebels last Aug. 19 at Sitio Palapay, Barangay Jagusara, Juban, Sorsogon.

The SKPF was established by Estrada for the benefit of the soldiers when he was still in Malacañang.

Two weeks ago, the foundation also extended financial assistance to the families of the 14 Philippine Marines killed during an encounter with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and Abu Sayyaf in Basilan last July 10.

"Erap is really kind to soldiers. We will not forget his goodness," Almira told newsmen after the ceremony held at a restaurant along the Maharlika Highway in nearby Tayabas town.

The two widows assailed the claims of Malacañang that the financial assistance being distributed by Estrada to war orphans is part of a grand destabilization plot against the government.

"The government should not give political color or ill motive to the inherent kindness of Erap. His goodwill to ordinary soldiers is legend," said Raymunda, an elementary schoolteacher in Daraga, Albay.

"The money is a great help for the families of slain soldiers," she added. She said the money will be deposited for the education of their only daughter, Yasmin Faye.

Raymunda said she already received P47,000 assistance from the Army battalion where her husband once belonged.

The widow is still waiting for the financial assistance of President Macapagal-Arroyo which she promised on television.

In his short speech, Lopez admitted he was deeply saddened by criticism hurled by some key government officials against the SKPF assistance to families of fallen soldiers.

"All we want is to help. The families of slain soldiers need our support and criticizing those who do so is not just unfair but completely uncalled for," said Lopez, son of Meralco owner Manolo Lopez.

Almira did not hide her disappointment with the government on the way it treats soldiers who die in action as well as their orphaned families.

"My husband was killed fighting for the country and yet his remains was not even accorded a decent coffin, not even a flag. I was the one who bought the Philippine flag that draped his coffin during the burial," Almira said. ***Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon***

INQUIRER Visayas

E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/regions
Editor **Jun Bandayrel**
Bureau Chief **Edralyn L. Benedicto**

Farmers find sweet success in vinegar

By Vicente S. Labro
Tolosa, Leyte

THE TOLOSA Pure Vinegar Processing Plant building in Barangay San Roque, Tolosa, Leyte. VICENTE S. LABRO

ELPEDIO Lagutan works in his small farm in Tolosa town in Leyte to support his family. But since early this year, he has been preoccupied with his new role as board chair of an organization that runs a coconut vinegar processing plant.

Lagutan, 59, is actively involved in making natural vinegar—gathering coconut sap, fermentation, pasteurization, bottling and packaging—and marketing the product for extra income.

"This project is a big help to us marginalized farmers and our families, because it provides us additional income and we can now buy some important things we need in our homes," he said.

His group, called the Local Initiatives for Rural Industry and Occupational Sustainability, is composed of 80 farmers with small rain-fed rice fields, tenants, farm laborers, mat weavers, vendors and even some jobless people.

Together with more than 400 other poor farmers in the area, they supply the Tolosa Pure Vinegar Processing Plant with coconut sap. They earn more by working in the plant or through sales commission.

P2.5-M grant

Their organization is a beneficiary of a P2.5-million grant from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction-Sustainable Livelihood Projects for the Poor in Southern Philippines, through the Infrastructure for Rural productivity Enhancement Sector (InfRES) project of the Department of Agriculture.

Of the amount, P2.17 million was earmarked for livelihood, P124,300 for training, and P217,507 for administration.

The beneficiaries are taught coconut vinegar making, business attitude and skills like marketing, bookkeeping, monitoring and evaluation, and plant operations, health and safety.

Chipping in about P600,000 in cash and kind for the project were the municipal government through Mayor Hilario Cadaan, the offices of Leyte Gov. Jericho Petilla and Rep. Remedios Petilla, and the Tools and Concepts for Community Development.

Coconut vinegar making is the flagship product of Tolosa, in line with the government's "One Town, One Product" program.

The processing plant stands on a 1,000-square-meter lot surrounded by coconut trees in Barangay San Roque. It is about 300 meters away from the national highway.

Its building has fermentation and pasteurization rooms, laboratory room, packaging room, stockroom and office. A waste-settling pond is found at the rear.

The facility can produce 45 gallons of natural vinegar per day, said Fiorello Lirios, executive director of the Tools and Concepts for Community Development which made the feasibility study and submitted the proposal for the livelihood project to concerned agencies.

Tolosa Farm Delights

Its two products—Pure Coconut Vinegar and Hot and Spicy Coconut Vinegar—bear the brand Tolosa Farm Delights and are sold at P65 and P75. "What the plant produces is naturally fermented vinegar with 4.5-percent acidity," said Lirios.

His group has been providing the beneficiaries with technical and managerial assistance.

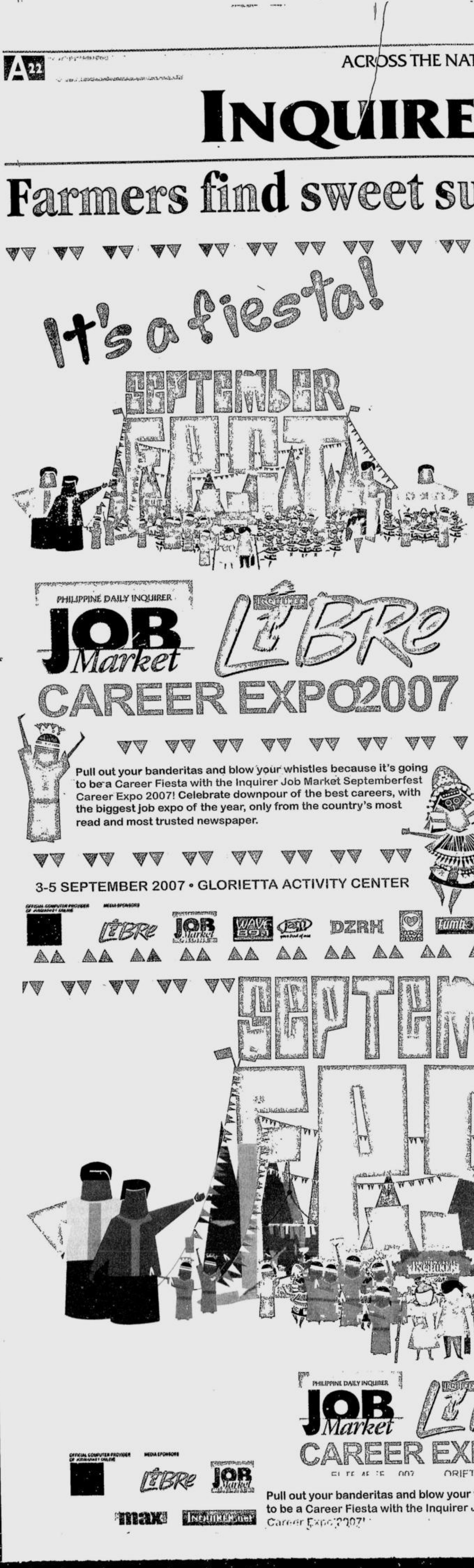
At first, the plant used the traditional way of making vinegar, using big earthen or clay jars as containers. The Department of Science and Technology taught them how to use an acetator to make the vinegar clean and safe, and hasten production. Natural fermentation, which took 60 days to attain the 4.5-percent acidity, was reduced to only one day.

Nine acetators were acquired, making the plant the biggest vinegar-making facility in Eastern Visayas today.

"Our products are still natural because nothing has been added to the coconut sap, the raw material in coco vinegar making," Lirios said.

The Department of Trade and Industry also helped train beneficiaries in product development and in marketing through trade fairs.

Lirios said the group was still looking for bulk buyers outside the region.



Bishop steps in as mining row getting violent

By Melvin Gascon
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA —It took Catholic Bishop Ramon Villena wielding his clout to stop the escalation of violence involving a raging mining controversy in an upland town here.

Villena had a hastily-called dinner with President Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacañang on Wednesday to seek her help in solving the mining conflict between tribal groups and an Australian mining firm.

The next day, Environment Secretary Lito Atienza ordered Oxiana Philippines Inc. (OPI) to stop its planned exploration activities in the area, until the issues raised by the people there were resolved, according to media reports.

Dialogue with the President

In a statement made over the Catholic Church-run radio station dwRV on Friday, Villena gave accounts of how he had to ask Ms Arroyo for a dialogue on Wednesday, hours after several tribal men and women in Kasibu were hurt following an attempt to dismantle their human barricade in remote Paquet Village.

"Over dinner, I told the President about the highly explosive and critical situation in Nueva Vizcaya. I told her my fear that there could be bloodshed and that lives might be lost because of the persistence of the mining company," Villena said.

Quick action

Immediately, the President called Atienza on the phone and asked him to talk to the bishop.

"(Secretary Atienza) assured me that he would act on my request immediately. Indeed, we have read in newspapers today about his order," Villena said.

He said he was flustered when Sister Maria Eden Orlino, directress of the Church-based Diocesan Social Action Center (DSAC) reported to him by phone from the barricade site in Paquet Village about the violent dispersal of the protesters, most of them women. Scores were hurt during the dispersal.

Militiamen in plain clothes dragged protesters who sat in the middle of the mountain road to stop a bulldozer that was to be used by OPI for clearing the land at the exploration site.

Tears

"The bishop was crying over the phone when he heard about the confrontation, and immediately said that he would do his best to personally talk to the President about the matter," Orlino said.

Since July 12, members of the Bugkalot, Kalanguya, Ibaloi and Ifugao tribes from six villages in Kasibu have been guarding the barricade to prevent the entry of OPI's heavy equipment.

In his statement, Villena thanked Ms Arroyo for giving him the time and for listening to his plea and Atienza for "acting like a good father and brother."

He called on officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Commission for Indigenous Peoples, the local governments, OPI, the local church and the protesters to come together for a dialogue and conduct an honest-to-goodness consultation.

Bottom line

"The bottom line here is that no human life should be sacrificed for the sake of development or of mining. Above all these, human dignity must first be respected," he said.

Villena said mining companies should use the Pao experience in learning the lesson that "no amount of wealth, not even guns, can destroy the determination of the people."

Tribal folk, who were resisting OPI's entry in Pao Village, welcomed Atienza's order but said they were not leaving the barricade site.

"We are thankful to Secretary Atienza, if indeed, there is such an order. But we are also wary that this could just be part of the government's tactics to soften our resistance," said Benito Cudiam, vice chair of the Kasibu Inter-Tribal Response for Ecological Development (Kired), a people's organization.

"We will remain at the barricade site until we have not received the formal order for Oxiana to stop its activities," Cudiam said.

BRUISED and manhandled, an unidentified woman clings to a bamboo post to prevent men hired by the mining company from entering her village. MELVIN GASCON/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

Courts urged to use Filipino in proceedings

CITY OF MALOLOS—A SUPREME COURT justice has urged judges, lawyers and court officials to follow the example set by three Bulacan courts that have started using Filipino in their court proceedings.

During the program commemorating the 157th birth anniversary of propagandist Marcelo H. del Pilar at the Bulacan State University here on Thursday, Associate Justice Ruben Reyes commended the program started by the courts here to use Filipino in their proceedings to expedite handling of cases, among other things.

A native of Hagonoy, Bulacan, Reyes told teachers, government officials and students that the use of Filipino in Del Pilar's Dyaryong Tagalog played a crucial role in enlightening Filipinos about the oppression during the Spanish period.

He admitted that the use of Filipino in court hearings is a sensitive issue especially in non Tagalog-speaking regions.

"There is a strong resistance to the use of Filipino among the Visayan-speaking lawyers and judges. So we will be doing this gradually," he said.

Last month, 12 stenographers from Branches 6, 80 and 81 of the regional trial court in Bulacan completed their training on the taking of stenographic notes in Filipino following a directive from the Supreme Court.

The three RTCs will use Filipino, instead of English, in their court proceedings.

Retired Court of Appeals Justice Jose de la Rama said the three branches would serve as the model for other courts.

The program was initiated by De la Rama, retired Judge Cesar Peralejo, a member of the Judicial and Bar Council, and lawyer Rosa Maria Bautista, a member of the linguist committee of the University of the Philippines College of Law. The stenographers underwent training for a month at the BulSU.

The training was in line with De la Rama's proposal to encourage lawyers, prosecutors and judges to use Filipino in court hearings and proceedings not only in Bulacan but in other areas as well.

De la Rama said he read the appeal written in Filipino of the late newspaper publisher Maximo Soliven and the late columnist Luis Beltran after their conviction by a lower court in the libel case filed by former President Corazon Aquino.

Carmela Reyes, Inquirer Central Luzon

2 Sayyaf leaders reported dead are alive

ZAMBOANGA CITY—TWO OF the most wanted leaders of the Abu Sayyaf are still alive, contrary to claims by the military that they were killed in clashes with government troops in August.

Puruji Indama and his right-hand-man Nuruddin Muddalan alias Nod are still alive and are subjects of the ongoing military offensives in four towns in Basilan.

Senior Supt. Salik Macapantar, police chief for Basilan, told the INQUIRER that Indama and Muddalan are still alive.

"They are still alive and are targets of the military operations. That includes a certain Commander Nod," Macapantar said.

Unkaya Pukan town mayor Joel Maturan and Albarka mayor Jakilan Karam also confirmed to the INQUIRER that Indama and Muddalan are still alive.

Both officials also confirmed that Muddalan was wounded in an Aug. 18 encounter in Barangay Silangkum in Tipo-tipo town.

But the mayors said Indama was still alive.

"He's not the one who was killed by the Marines," Karam said.

Maturan said he received reports that the two Abu Sayyaf leaders were being kept by influential politicians in Sumisip town.

"That is why the pursuit operation has been diverted from Tipo-tipo," Maturan said. *Julie S. Alipala, Inquirer Mindanao*

Military says 99 NPA rebels turn selves in

ALABEL, SARANGANI—TOP OFficers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines presided over the surrender of 99 communist guerrillas who were quoted as saying hardship, hunger and demoralization in the mountains forced them to turn themselves in.

The guerrillas were operating in Sarangani and South Cotabato, according to the military.

The former New People's Army (NPA) rebels, led by a certain Laide Malinao alias Commander Rustom, also turned-over 92 firearms to the military during the ceremony held at the Alabel Gymnasium 2:30 p.m. Thursday.

The firearms include M-16 assault rifles, Garands, Carbines, .38 cal. revolvers and one grenade launcher.

In an interview with reporters, Malinao said life in the mountains has become difficult due to lack of food and continuing military offensives.

He said this was exacerbated when many among the NPA rebels were demoralized due to the arrest of CPP-NPA founding chair Jose Ma. Sison in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Sison was ordered arrested by the Dutch government for allegedly ordering the assassination of Kintanar and Tabara, former high-ranking CPP-NPA leaders.

Col. Gaudencio Pangilinan, commanding officer of the 1002nd Army Brigade based in Malungon in Sarangani, said the military did not convince the former rebels to surrender.

Pangilinan claimed the former NPA rebels yielded to the military on their own volition.

The 99 rebels were members of the CPP-NPA Front Committee 71 under a certain Commander Warren.

The military claimed Warren and his ragtag group has been on the run.

During simple surrender rites the rebels expressed optimism life would be better for them and their family now that they have decided to lay down their arms.

Pangilinan claimed they would help the rebel returnees avail of the government's "Balik-Baril" program.

Gov. Miguel Dominguez said the provincial government will help the former rebels start a new life by helping them find opportunities for livelihood.

Dominguez added that the former NPA rebels would also be trained to become government militiamen. *Aquiles Zonio, Inquirer Mindanao*

AT ANOTHER surrender rite, AFP Chief of Staff Hermogenes Esperon Jr. administers the oath of allegiance to 28 alleged rebels who surrendered these World War II vintage firearms at Camp Panacan in Davao City. BING GONZALES/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

Team formed to keep boat rides in Pagsanjan safe

CALAMBA CITY—A TEAM WAS formed to keep tourists on boat rides along the Pagsanjan River safe following the stranding of Korean and local tourists recently.

Mayor Emilio Ramon Ejercito said the team will be composed of representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, local environment office and municipal government of Pagsanjan.

Officials from the provincial and local tourism offices were also asked to join the panel, the mayor said.

"What we need right now is a scientific approach to avoid freak accidents like what happened last Tuesday," Ejercito told the INQUIRER over the phone.

Thirty-eight Koreans and Filipinos were trapped between huge rocks on their way to the Pagsanjan Falls when a heavy downpour caused the river to swell along the boundary of Pagsanjan and Cavinti towns.

After being stranded for at least six hours, the vacationers and boatmen were safely plucked from the area by rescuers.

Although the tourists suffered only minor bruises and wounds, Ejercito immediately suspended all boat trips going to the falls.

The mayor, however, said he was set to lift the temporary suspension of all boat rides yesterday.

He allayed fears of other tourists who want to experience the world-renowned "shooting the rapids" ride in Pagsanjan.

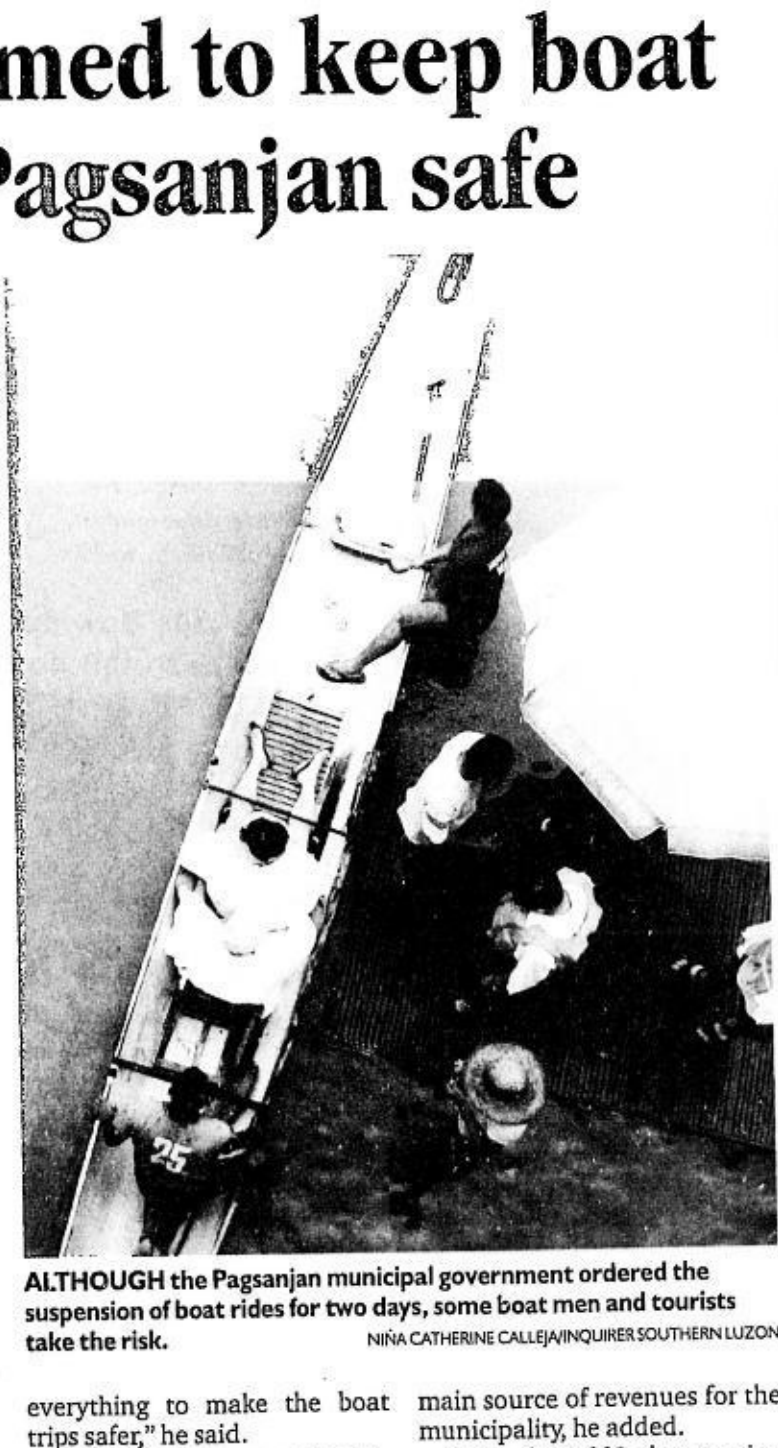
"We want to inform both local and foreign visitors that it is still safe to take the boat rides to Pagsanjan Falls. We are doing everything to make the boat trips safer," he said.

Ejercito was apparently cautious of the would-be effect of the accident to the local economy of his town.

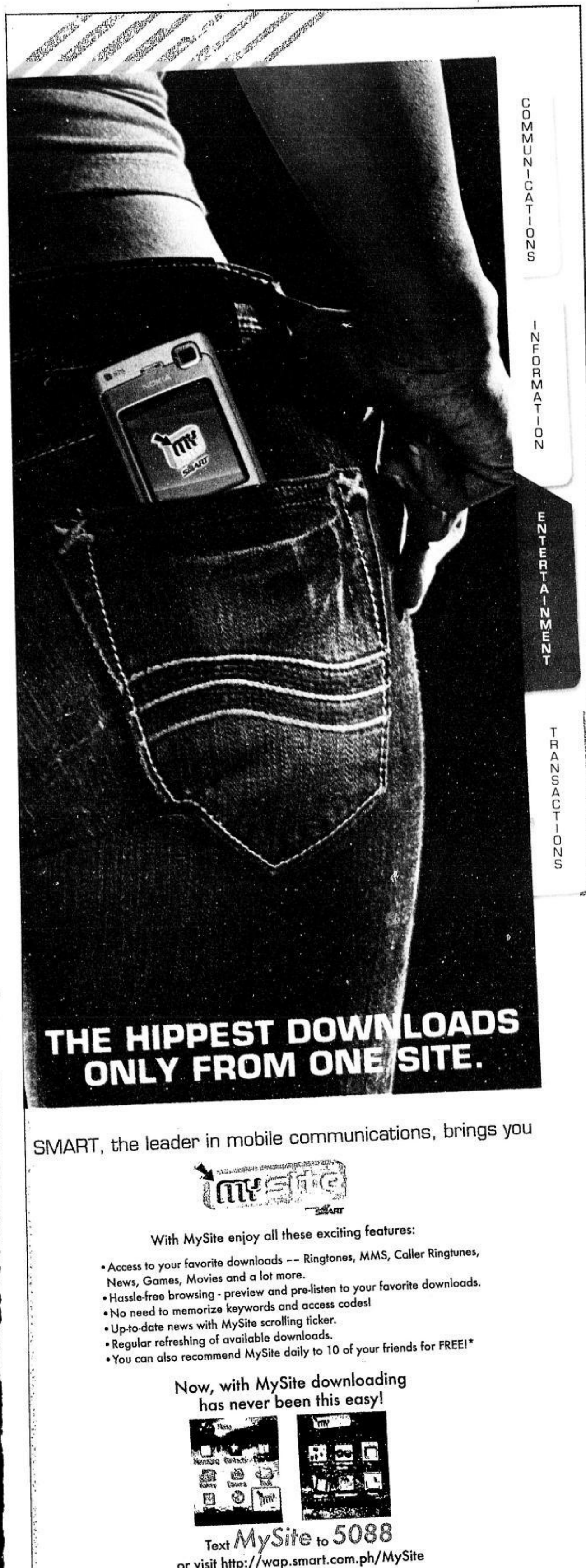
He said that tours and boat rides to Pagsanjan Falls are one of the major sources of livelihood in the town. It is also a main source of revenues for the municipality, he added.

From the P660 that tourists pay for a boat ride, the municipal government gets P15 as share.

With an average of 260,000 visitors annually, the local government earns at least P4 million yearly, Ejercito explained. *Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon*



ALTHOUGH the Pagsanjan municipal government ordered the suspension of boat rides for two days, some boat men and tourists take the risk. NIÑA CATHERINE CALLEJA/INQUIRER SOUTHERN LUZON



Website: www.inquirer.net/nation

NEWS

Text us your feedback: in /message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

GARDUCE: Mt. Elbrus, another mountain to climb.

Romi Garduce back from latest conquest

By Tarra Quismundo

MOUNTAINEER ROMI GARDUCE YESTERday thought he could slip back into the country as quietly as he left two weeks ago.

But Garduce, one of the first Filipinos to have conquered Mt. Everest, was pleasantly surprised to find media persons waiting for him at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport when he arrived yesterday afternoon from Moscow.

"*O, anong ginagawa nyo dito? Anong meron?* (Hey, what are you doing here? What's up?" said a grinning Garduce upon seeing the reporters and photographers at the airport.

He did not expect a fanfare that came with his celebrated success in reaching the summit of Mt. Everest in May last year.

But completing a trek up Russia's Mt. Elbrus, the highest mountain in Europe, was no mean feat for Garduce and simply could not escape media's prying eyes.

GARDUCE looking relaxed upon arrival yesterday. JESS YUSON

Historic feat

The 38-year-old information technology professional returned with another historic feat: He's the only Filipino to ever have scaled four of the Seven Summits, the tallest peaks in each of the world's continents.

But while he has set foot on the planet's highest point, conquering any mountain is just never the same.

"This is my second attempt *sa* mountain (Elbrus). I failed the last time. So there was an additional fuel for me to finish it. Right after you finish, you should be happy right? But when I got there at the peak, I only felt two things: First, relief that I finished it, and secondly, three more to go," Garduce said, laughing at the thought.

He had been forced to abort his expedition up Mt. Elbrus three years ago because of severe weather.

"You already start thinking what's next, what you will do the next time, when you are just descending the mountain," he said.

Surprises

The Balanga, Bataan, native reached the peak of 5,642-meter Mt. Elbrus at 11:02 a.m. (Russia time) on Aug. 27. Besides Everest, he had earlier climbed Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa, in September 2002, and Aconcagua in Argentina in January 2005.

While Everest was a colder and more tricky climb, Elbrus had its own surprises for the experienced mountaineer.

"Elbrus is notorious for sudden change of weather, especially when you are close to the summit. In fact, 20 minutes before we reached the summit, we almost aborted because of strong winds and white-out. You won't see anything. White-out is like you're inside a pingpong ball," he said.

As Garduce described it, the "tourist mountain"—highly commercialized as it is surrounded by ski resorts—has been an "underestimated" peak.

Garduce and six other climbers in the international expedition stayed at the peak for just four minutes and headed back down, wary that bad weather might strike anytime. The entire trek took 10 days to complete.

A day later, he related, two incidents of avalanche were reported near the summit, aborting the day's summit attempts.

New challenge

"Every mountain is a challenge. That's my realization. You can never be complacent that just because you've climbed Everest, you can climb all. It's not like that. Every mountain is a new challenge that comes with new difficulties, a different way of acclimatization," he told the INQUIRER.

Asked when his next expedition would be, Garduce said he would take a break first and focus on writing a book about his Mt. Everest climb. The remaining mountains on the checklist are the tallest peaks in North America, Australia and Antartica.

"I haven't decided yet but maybe, the next mountain is McKinley in Alaska... but in the next three months, my focus will be my book. I'm writing my book first about the Everest experience," Garduce said.

Comelec firm on Bedol verdict

By Beverly T. Natividad

THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (COMelec) has junked the motion of Maguindanao provincial election supervisor Lintang Bedol to overturn a six-month imprisonment for indirect contempt.

Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos told reporters yesterday that the election body has denied Bedol's motion for reconsideration for lack of merit.

He said the Maguindanao election supervisor "was not able to offer any evidence or material that would make the Comelec reverse its position" on the case.

Despite the denial of Bedol's motion for reconsideration, another avenue is still open to the beleaguered provincial election supervisor since he can still appeal the verdict to the Supreme Court.

In a 21-page decision on Aug. 7, the Comelec unanimously sentenced Bedol to six months and a P1,000 fine for indirect contempt following his failure to appear before the poll body despite repeated summons to answer questions on alleged cheating activities in Maguindanao.

Apart from this, the poll body's guilty verdict was also based on Bedol's failure to attend the scheduled canvassing of the provincial certificates of canvass (CoC) of Maguindanao in May and the hearing of Task Force Maguindanao in June, as well as his unlawful assumption of the custody of the municipal CoC and other election documents of Maguindanao.

Abalos said that should Bedol fail to file the appeal in the Supreme Court, then the Comelec decision will become final and executory. This means that Bedol can be arrested to start serving a six-month jail term.

Bedol is free on a P15,000 bail.

A plus METRO
Website: www.inquirer.net/metro
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil
Text us your feedback: inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

NBI joins probe of alleged hazing victim's death

UP studes hit 'code of silence' in case

THE UP community in Diliman, Quezon City mourns the tragic death of student leader Cris Anthony Mendez in an indignation rally yesterday. JOAN BONDOC

By Allison Lopez and Jeannette Andrade

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF Investigation (NBI) will help in investigating the death of suspected hazing victim Cris Anthony Mendez on the request of his family.

Mendez's grandfather, Servando de Ocampo, 55, of Tiaong, Quezon, said they asked the agency to help the Quezon City Police District (QCPD) in ensuring justice for the University of the Philippines-Diliman senior.

This developed as some 200 UP students and members of the faculty rallied yesterday to denounce fraternity violence in the Diliman campus. Without naming the fraternity involved, they decried the "code of silence" in the 20-year-old student's case.

The university student council, headed by president Shahana Abdulwahid, said Mendez's death should be a challenge to the student body to re-orient their organizations based on the principles of service to others and to country and not to violence.

Officers and members of the UP College of Law joined the call for justice and urged Congress to review the anti-hazing law and recommend "a solution to the ambiguities still evident." Mendez was a public administration student and council officer.

NBI-National Capital Region chief Ruel Lasala said they would assist the QCPD in looking for Dr. Francisco Cruz, chief ophthalmologist of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center, to shed light on the incident. Cruz allegedly brought Mendez, a public administration student, to the VMMC. Unconfirmed reports said the doctor's son was a member of the UP fraternity that was reportedly recruiting Mendez.

"We are also looking for a certain Paolo, said to be a classmate of Mendez, because he was seen leaving the boardinghouse with the victim," Lasala said. The death certificate indicated that Mendez suffered from "traumatic injuries on the trunk."

De Ocampo said, on the night of Aug. 27, Mendez's mother Cristina received a text message saying her son passed away and his body was at the St. Peter Memorial Chapel on Quezon Avenue.

He said his daughter Dorothy de Ocampo learned from St. Peter that Mendez's body was

NBI/ A26

Extended until September 30, 2007
Get Connected. Stay Connected!
Enjoy +5 Hours with your Go!100 card from May 7 to July 30, 2007. For inquiries you can call our 24-Hr. Customer Service Hotline at 3001000.
www.gointernet.com.ph - Cached - No Similar pages
Go! Power up Daily! Up to 240 HRS. Eastern Telecom P100 25 hours
Lo ng surfing hours
Hours: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 Next
Make Go! your Premium Internet Card

Dirty water also means lost revenues, says expert

By Julie M. Aurelio

DIRTY WATER FROM YOUR home's *poso negro* not only can cause illness but also means P67 billion a year in lost revenues.

The loss comes from less production from the fishing industry, health costs and missed tourism opportunities, said Lisa Kirscher-Lumbao of the Local Initiatives for Wastewater Treatment (Linaw).

At the end of the Linaw conference in Muntinlupa City yesterday, Lumbao stressed the need to expose local governments to cheaper alternatives in treating dirty water.

"If we manage to clean up our dirty water, in the long run we will in fact save and earn more money," Lumbao said.

The Linaw project, an endeavor of the United States Agency for International Development, seeks to promote cheap ways to treat dirty water from markets, hospitals, households and slaughterhouses.

It also aims to make people aware of the importance of "cleaning up dirty water" and of proper sanitation to avoid waterborne diseases.

Lumbao cited past efforts in Muntinlupa City to make the campaign amusing by introducing a "superhero" dedicated to cleaning up septic tanks regularly.

Posters of the masked "Pusa Negra" urged residents to have their septic tanks cleaned every three to five years to avoid groundwater contamination. Lumbao admitted she was the model for the catlike heroine.

"The water from our septic tanks, once separated from solids, still needs to be treated as it goes out to the drainage," Lumbao said.

The Muntinlupa City public market was able to have its own "anaerobic" wastewater treatment facility. Built through the LINAW project, the project began operations in 2006.

It helped solve the problem of treating and filtering water contaminated by waste from market stalls. The dirty water, instead of being disposed through the city's waterways, is now reused to flush toilets, water plants and wash city streets.

"We also encourage all hospitals, hotels, and subdivisions to have their own wastewater facility," Lumbao added.

The wastewater treatment facility at the city's public market was built during the term of former Mayor Jaime Fresnedi and cost around P6.8 billion.

NBI joins probe of alleged hazing victim's death

From page A25

sent to them by the VMMC. De Ocampo said a guard at the VMMC told them a certain Dr. Cruz brought Mendez to the hospital.

Cruz was reportedly in a Toyota Innova and was accompanied by people in an Isuzu Trooper (XAS-548) and Nissan Frontier (WGL-515).

Lasala said they would coordinate with UP officials and the Sigma Rho fraternity, the group being implicated in the incident. The fraternity has yet to give a statement on the incident.

Meanwhile, the QCPD is closing in on the house allegedly used by the Sigma Rho fraternity for initiation rites. Mendez was reportedly a new recruit.

Chief Insp. Lino Banaag of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit (CIDU) refused to divulge the exact location of the house, reportedly located in a subdivision in Barangay Pasong Tamo, in Pingkian.

Although the police did not say Mendez's death resulted from hazing, Banaag said the house was where the Sigma Rho reportedly held its initiation rites. He added a witness, who was not identified, was giving them "bits and pieces" of clues on what happened.

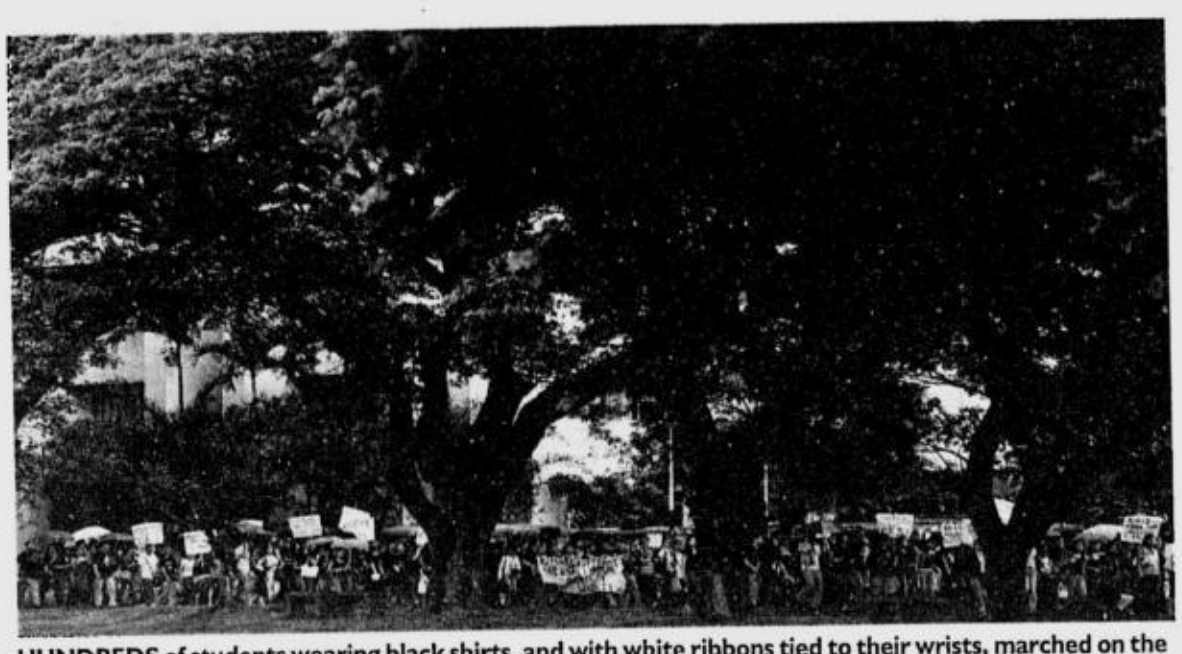
The QCPD-CIDU, he said, did not expect Dr. Cruz to surface voluntarily and provide details. He said the doctor had apparently gone into hiding. The police are considering filing a case for obstruction of justice against the doctor, depending on the evidence.

The College of Law group challenged those involved in the alleged hazing "to shun the cowardly path, and instead steadfastly come forward to shed light on and acknowledge responsibility for Mendez's needless death."

The INQUIRER called up alumni members of the Sigma Rho for comments on the issue, in the absence of an official statement from its officials and Council of Elders leadership. Most of the calls were not returned.

Camarines Rep. Luis Villafuerte, a Sigma Rhoan, said Mendez was harmed during the Sigma Rho initiation rites, it was possible only a member—not the fraternity—was at fault. Alumni members include former Senate president Jovito Salonga, this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award winner for government service, Senators Juan Ponce Enrile and Edgardo Angara, former Senate president Franklin Drilon and Supreme Court Justice Antonio Carpio.

Former solicitor general Francisco Chavez said yesterday there was no code of secrecy in the fraternity but declined to comment on the Mendez case, saying he did not know the circumstances. *With reports from Christian Esguerra and Leila Salaverria*



HUNDREDS of students wearing black shirts, and with white ribbons tied to their wrists, marched on the Diliman campus yesterday decrying the senseless death of one of their own. JOAN BONDOC

Culture of violence among UP frats 'getting worse'

By Margaux C. Ortiz

A FEW WEEKS AGO, 11 FRAternities in the University of the Philippines in Diliman gathered at the Iskolar ng Bayan Village near the campus to build houses for homeless marginalized members of the community.

The project, "From Rumbles to Rubbles," hoped to bring together fratmen in an atmosphere of peace and cooperation, said UP National College of Public Administration and Governance (NCPAG) dean Alex Brillantes Jr.

"The activity was meant to divert the guys' energies from violent skirmishes to positive action," Brillantes, who initiated the project with non-government organization Gawad Kalinga (GK), told the INQUIRER.

The project was a success, Brillantes noted in the GK Township Development Summit in Ateneo de Manila University last Sunday. Then NCPAG student Cris Anthony Mendez died, a suspected hazing victim.

"There are just certain things beyond our control," Brillantes lamented. A fratman himself, the dean said the culture of violence among UP fraternities had gotten worse. Brillantes said he was beaten up by members of a rival fraternity in his third year at the university. But fraternity members only used their fists in the past. Today's fratmen had become more violent, he said.

Last year, NCPAG student and Alpha Phi Beta member Paul Marasigan was attacked with lead pipes. But the charges he filed against two Sigma Rho members were dismissed by the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office last week for lack of evidence.

Brillantes said the incident prompted him to put up a gate at the NCPAG building for security purposes. More lights were also installed.

After Marasigan was attacked, another NCPAG student's car was smashed, suspected to be a retaliatory act.

Interestingly, the car, a Mitsubishi Lancer owned by a certain Fuzzy Clemente, a Sigma Rhoan, was last seen on Saturday with Mendez and NCPAG student council chair Ariel Paolo Ante inside. Ante has not been seen on campus after the incident.

Judge issues search warrants indiscriminately

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

"KUYA, STOP WRITING ABOUT Mike Velarde because I'm in trouble," my brother, Ben, pleaded with me Wednesday.

Ben is being held hostage. If you want to know how, read on.

Ben has a program at IBC 13, a television network where the son-in-law of El Shaddai founder and leader Mike Velarde, J.J. Yambao, is the chair of the board.

Some IBC insiders jokingly told me that Yambao, before he was appointed chief of the government-sequestered network, couldn't tell a TV microphone from a karaoke mike.

He didn't have any background in broadcasting. His only qualification was that he is the son-in-law of a religious leader to whom most politicians and top government people pay obeisance.

Ben told me he was told—indirectly, of course—that if I continued to write about Velarde his contract with IBC 13 would be canceled.

Ben's TV show at Channel 13 is "Bitag." I leave it to the readers to find out what the program is all about.

Ben's predicament is similar to what his brothers—Erwin, Raffy and myself—went through last year at another government-sequestered TV station, RPN.

I won't go into details about what happened to Erwin, Raffy and myself because I don't want to court another libel suit.

Suffice it to say that government—especially a government like what we have now—should not be allowed to run a powerful media outlet like a television network.

Media should be in the hands of the private sector.

***

So, my advice to Ben is to keep his cool and letthings be.

We are not living under normal times, Ben. The situation now is no better than Ferdinand Marcos' martial law days.

It was understandable in martial law days because then democratic institutions in the country—particularly the legislature and the judiciary—were not functioning normally.

But in the administration of President Gloria, when supposedly we live in a democracy, journalists and leftists disappear or get killed for criticizing powerful individuals.

If journalists are lucky not to get killed, they are persecuted through libel suits and on trumped-up charges.

So, Ben, prepare for the worst: your show getting canceled because of me.

Welcome to the club!

***

The Supreme Court should investigate a Manila regional trial court judge for allegedly issuing search warrants not meant to confiscate goods for evidence, but to keep them for himself and the raiders.

The judge reportedly connives with corrupt policemen and crooked agents of the National Bureau of Investigation.

Millions of pesos worth of goods have allegedly been confiscated by police and NBI agents from Chinese merchants in Baclaran, Parañaque and Divisoria, Manila, but they were never used as evidence.

Instead, they were reportedly divided among the police or NBI raiders and the judge, according to my sources.

The modus operandi of the corrupt cops or NBI agents is to swoop down on the big malls in Baclaran or Divisoria suspected of selling smuggled goods, armed with a search warrant issued by the Manila judge.

The confiscated goods end up in the hands of the raiders and the judge, instead of the court's evidence custodian.

These are not raids but plain robbery.

The latest caper was pulled by alleged NBI agents in a Baclaran mall Thursday. They raided stores selling what they said was fake jewelry.

So, what if it's fake jewelry, it was meant for ordinary shoppers who know they are buying fancy jewelry, not real ones.

Why should they raid a store that sells fancy jewelry?

METROBRIEFS

Payroll robberies

A TOTAL of P1.2 million intended for employees' wages was taken by armed robbers in two separate incidents in Pasig and Antipolo cities recently, police said yesterday. The latest incident occurred in Pasig City where a businessman in Pasig City was robbed of P700,000 in cash by three unidentified armed men in Barangay Santolan. Pasig City chief of police Senior Supt. Frank Uyami said Nelson Leung, had just come from the BPI Family Bank in Greenhills, San Juan when the Toyota Prado he was driving was blocked by a grey Nissan Sentra at about 11:15 a.m. along Evangelista Street. Leung told police the money he was carrying had been earmarked for his employees working at Tamili Industries. Meanwhile, Carlo Cristobal, a Metropolitan Manila Development Authority employee was killed on Thursday night when armed thieves divested him of P500,000 representing the agency's payroll. Police said Cristobal fought off the robbers who shot him several times in the chest.

Kristine L. Alave

Unpaid electricity, water bills

METRO police units were told to conserve on electricity and water as their unpaid bills had ballooned to more than P200 million pesos, according to Caloocan City Chief of police Supt. William Macavinta. The austerity measures are in line with an order from the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) to save on power because of unpaid utility bills. He said that based on a letter sent to all police chiefs, the unpaid bill for the entire Metro police districts had reached an estimated P120 million for electricity; accumulated bills for water were also of the same amount. Macavinta said he already ordered his men to save on water and to turn off air-conditioners at 4 p.m. On the other hand, Navotas City Police Chief Senior Supt. Eric Reyes said their station had long been conscious of conservation methods. Reyes added that his station could not save on water because it does not have a water connection. "*Wala kaming tubig sa gripo, kaya wala kaming* bill." the police chief said.

Nancy Carvajal

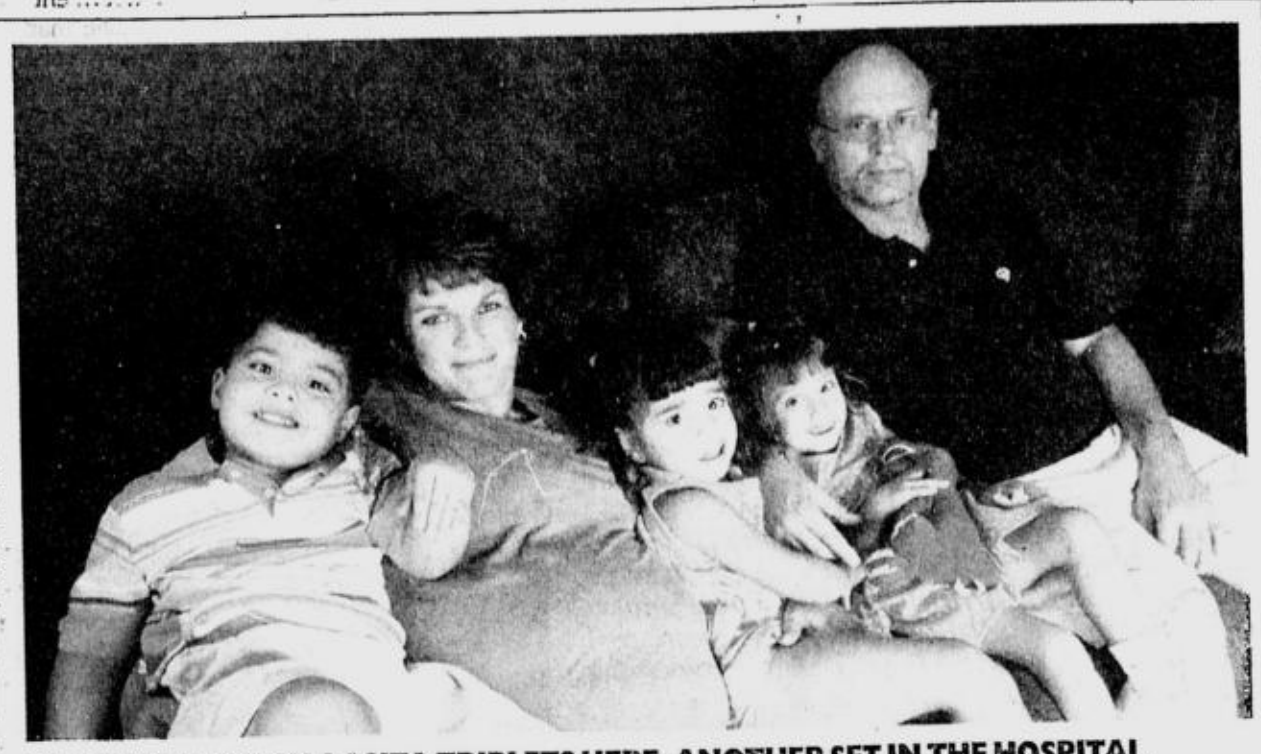
SM Gamot sa Kapwa drive

SM FOUNDATION INC. recently launched Gamot Para Sa Kapwa, its mall-based outreach program, at SM North Edsa. The project is a medicine/cash donation drive aimed at gathering medicines for its medical and dental missions. Shoppers and mallgoers are enjoined to drop their donations of unexpired and unopened medicines for indigent families in boxes located in all 28 SM malls nationwide. The Philippine National Red Cross is the sole beneficiary of donations from shoppers for the Aug. 1-31 period. Guests during the launch were Philippine National Red Cross Chair Sen. Richard Gordon, Watsons Personal Care Corp. Managing Director Krish N. Iyer, Kapwa Ko, Mahal Ko Foundation president Orly Mercado, and Social Welfare Secretary Dr. Esperanza Cabral.

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Hostage ordeal ends: Last Koreans freed



ALL IN THE FAMILY: LASITA TRIPLETS HERE, ANOTHER SET IN THE HOSPITAL
The Lasita family relax on their couch on Aug. 5 in Cincinnati. The family includes mother Victoria, father Tim, and 3-year-old triplets (from left) Brian, Jillian and Jessica. Victoria Lasita gave birth to second set of triplets on Aug. 29. AP

GHAZNI, AFGHANISTAN—TALIBAN INSURGENTS FREED SEVEN remaining South Korean hostages in Afghanistan on Thursday after a six-week kidnap ordeal, following a deal that Afghan officials said included a ransom payment by Seoul.

The four women and three men were handed over in two batches to officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Ghazni province in southeast Afghanistan, from where the Taliban seized 23 Christian volunteers on July 19.

It was the largest case of abductions in the resurgent Taliban campaign since US-led troops ousted the Islamists from power in 2001.

"The remaining hostages released are in good health, and the hostage drama is over," said Merajuddin Pattan, governor of Ghazni. "We have identified the people responsible for that and they will be punished in the coming weeks. We will teach them a lesson."

Reporters were not allowed to speak to the released captives as they stepped down from a minibus after dusk outside Ghazni town, the women covering their heads and faces with scarves.

The Taliban killed two male hostages last month, but later agreed to release 19 others they were still holding after Seoul agreed to pull all its nationals out of the insurgency-wracked central Asian country.

Some Afghan officials say South Korea agreed to pay a ransom during negotiations with the Taliban, which one foreign diplomat said started out as a demand for $20 million.

The South Korean government was praised at home on Thursday for its part in securing the release of its nationals. But some said Seoul may have set a dangerous precedent in directly negotiating with the Taliban.

"The Canadian position on dealings with terrorists is well-known to all those with even a passing familiarity with the subject. We do not negotiate with terrorists, for any reason," Canadian Foreign Minister Maxime Bernier said in a statement.

In New York, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, a former South Korean Foreign Minister, was "happy that those released are now on their way to being safely reunited with their loved ones," said UN spokesperson Marie Okabe.

But she said Ban was "deeply concerned for the safety and welfare of the other nationals who are being held against their will in Afghanistan," including a German and four Afghans.

South Korea's presidential Blue House said that under the deal it struck with the Taliban, it must withdraw its small contingent of noncombat troops in the country within the year and stop its nationals from doing missionary work in Afghanistan.

However, South Korea had already decided before the crisis to pull its 200 engineers and medical staff out of Afghanistan by the end of 2007. Since the hostages were taken, it has banned its nationals from traveling there.

A spokesperson for South Korea's president, Chon Ho-seon, was evasive in responding to questions at a news briefing in Seoul on Wednesday on whether a ransom was part of the deal, saying only South Korea had done what was needed.

Taliban fighters also seized two German aid workers and five Afghan colleagues in a separate incident in mid-July. *Reuters*

US Marine tells court he was ordered to execute roomful of Iraqi women, kids

CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA—A US Marine was ordered to execute a room full of terrified Iraqi women and children during an alleged massacre in Haditha that left 24 people dead, a military court heard on Thursday.

The testimony came in the opening of a preliminary hearing for Marine Sergeant Frank Wuterich, who faces 17 counts of murder over the Haditha killings, the most serious war crimes allegations faced by US troops in Iraq.

Wuterich, dressed in desert khakis, spoke confidently to confirm his name as the hearing to decide if he faces a court martial began at the Marines' Camp Pendleton base in southern California.

The 27-year-old listened intently as Lance Corporal Humberto Mendoza recounted how Marines had responded after a roadside bomb attack on their convoy in Haditha on Nov. 19, 2005, left one comrade dead.

Mendoza said Marines under Wuterich's command began clearing nearby houses suspected of containing insurgents responsible for the bombing.

At one house Wuterich gave an order to shoot on sight as Marines waited for a response after knocking on the door, said Mendoza.

"He said 'Just wait till they open the door, then shoot,'" Mendoza said. Mendoza then said he himself shot and killed an adult male who appeared in a doorway.

During a subsequent search of the house, Mendoza said he received an order from another Marine, Lance Corporal Stephen Tatum, to shoot seven women and children he had found in a rear bedroom.

"When I opened the door there was just women and kids, two adults were lying down on the bed and there were three children on the bed ... two more were behind the bed," Mendoza said.

"I looked at them for a few seconds. Just enough to know they were not presenting a threat ... they looked scared." After leaving the room Mendoza told Tatum what he had found.

"I told him there were women and kids inside there. He said: 'Well, shoot them,'" Mendoza told prosecutor Lieutenant Colonel Sean Sullivan.

"And what did you say to him?" Sullivan asked.

"I said: 'But they're just women and children.' He didn't say nothing."

Mendoza said he returned to a position at the front of the house and heard a door open behind him followed by a loud noise. Returning later that afternoon to retrieve bodies, Mendoza said he found a room full of corpses. AFP

WORLDBRIEFS

Burma protests persist despite arrests

BANGKOK, Thailand—Linking arms for mutual support, grim in the face of plainclothes paramilitary gangs, small groups of protesters in Burma (also known as Myanmar) have staged street demonstrations for nearly two weeks in the most sustained defiance of the junta in a decade. The protests have dwindled in size since they began on Aug. 19, but to the surprise of outside analysts, they have continued to erupt in several parts of the country. They do not appear to be centrally organized and have continued despite the arrests of a number of antigovernment leaders. "A week and a half ago, people were saying the protests didn't have that much future," said Dave Mathieson, an expert on Burma with Human Rights Watch in Thailand. "But they are starting to spread, and they are continuing in Rangoon." Rangoon, now known as Yangon, is the country's commercial capital. *NYT*

Ex-astronaut allowed to shed ankle bracelet

NOWAK

ORLANDO, Fla.—Former Nasa astronaut Lisa Nowak no longer has to wear an electronic ankle bracelet before her trial next month on charges she attacked a romantic rival when a love triangle with a fellow ex-astronaut unraveled in February, a Florida judge ordered on Thursday. But Judge Marc Lubet added three states and Washington, DC, to the list of places to which she cannot travel. Lubet said in a court order that Nowak, a Navy captain, had complied with all conditions of her pretrial release, including one that bars her from traveling to Brevard County, Florida, home of her alleged victim, Air Force Capt. Colleen Shipman. The judge noted that since the alleged assault, Shipman had gone to Nowak's hometown of Houston three or four times to visit former Nasa astronaut Bill Oefelein, whom both women had been dating. *Reuters*

US senator in sex sting abandoned by fellow GOPs

WASHINGTON—A Republican senator who has represented his state in the US Congress for 27 years is finding himself increasingly isolated from his political allies as more members of his party call for him to resign over his arrest in an airport men's room on a disorderly conduct charge. A spokesperson for Sen. Larry Craig denied widespread speculation in Washington that the senator—up for reelection next year—was preparing to quit. Republican Senate leaders pushed Craig from senior committee positions. A White House spokesperson expressed disappointment in the 62-year-old lawmaker, who pleaded guilty earlier this month to a charge stemming from an undercover police operation last June in a Minneapolis airport bathroom. *AP*

EPSON
EXCEED YOUR VISION

The affordable solution for everyday projects

- Economical INKdividual cartridges for everyday printing
- Durable prints that withstand accidental spills, smudging and fading
- Cartridge flexibility to cater for different printing requirements

EPSON STYLUS™ C90
Single function printer

EPSON STYLUS™ CX5500
Multi-function printer

TRANSFORMERS
Get a Limited Edition Transformers T-shirts for FREE!
See posters and flyers for more details
www.epson.com.ph

A 28

A CENTURY OF GIL PUYAT

On the 100th year after his birth, we remember the man who minded his private business, swept the senate elections four times—and balanced the national budget.

Gil J. Puyat was born in Manila on the 1st of September, 1907—100 years to this month. In 1979, a year before his death, Senator Gil J. Puyat wrote briefly, in a speech for a testimonial dinner on his 72nd birthday, about the intermingled histories of his career, personal life and his country. His sharp recall of events that took place as early as the 1920's remained untempered by time, and betrayed an unusual attention for detail.

But Puyat's convergent legacies, as pencil-pushing finance man at his private business, and as a hugely popular senator and powerful statesman who worked numbers for the Philippine economy, reveal that a great nation's history lies in the details. He died on March 22, 1981.

Gil J. Puyat had wanted to be a doctor. But his father, Don Gonzalo Puyat, an industrialist of legendary reputation, saw in his son the potential to follow in his footsteps and one day run the family business—a conglomerate that would span a number of key industries and would be the template for many of today's diversified holding companies.

Ever the dutiful son, young Gil promptly changed course, and thus also the course of our history.

BUSINESSMAN

"I did not feel frustrated when I shifted to business," Gil Puyat would later reflect. "Because, even as a young boy, I saw how much our economy was in the hands of aliens." A budding nationalist, he had found this imbalance hard to accept. So much so that he would devote his later life to correcting such imbalances whenever there were opportunities to do so. But first, he had to prove his worth as a businessman.

In 1929, shortly after Gil Puyat graduated from college, his father departed for a business trip that would take him around the world. This effectively placed all the responsibilities of Gonzalo Puyat & Sons, regarded as one of the first business empires established in the country, on Gil's shoulders.

Young Gil (extreme right) closely followed the footsteps of Don Gonzalo (in white) in business.

Despite being just 22 years old at the time, young Gil knew that running his father's company meant, at the very least, managing it with the same kind of foresight and fiscal wisdom, and measure of control and discipline that their employees, associates and business partners were used to. Apparently, the young Puyat did a good job. Because upon his father's return, a significant share of the management duties remained with him.

He would have gone on to become a fine industrialist like his father. However fate, it seemed had other, even bigger plans for him.

EDUCATOR

In 1936, Gil J Puyat was offered the Deanship of the College of Business Administration by UP President Bienvenido Gonzales—an offer that Puyat politely declined because he did not even have a master's degree. He also cited a moral obligation to serve at his father's office and mind his father's businesses.

It took a personal invitation from no less than President Manuel L. Quezon for Puyat to take the position, and with no reasons left to decline, Gil Puyat became Dean of Business at UP at the age of 33—the youngest the University has ever seen.

Education then became his second career, and he took charge of the College of Business as vigorously as he did years before at his father's business, reorganizing the faculty and overhauling the curriculum. Because, as he later said, "Even then, I felt that the College of Business of the University should be the one institution that should provide Filipino leadership in business, finance, industry and the other areas of our economy."

Over the course of his career, several universities conferred honorary doctorates on Puyat.

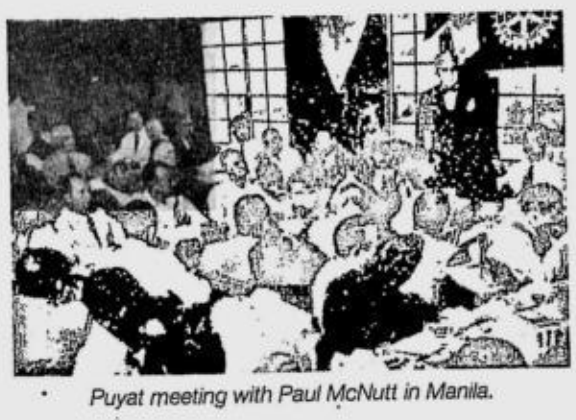
By 1941 he had become an active advocate for industrialization in the Philippines—a sharp turn for what had always been an agricultural economy. It seemed that there was nothing to stop Puyat from further fueling his dream of a Filipino-run economy for Filipinos. Nothing, that is, except the war.

When Liberation came, after a period of personal soul-searching, he was further galvanized to take the lead. In his own words: "...the time had come to take an active part in leading the Filipino businessmen in shaping the pattern of our economy so that it would be truly Filipino, that the control would reside in Filipino hands."

REFORMIST

Puyat's opportunity to pursue this goal came from the Philippine Chamber of Commerce, then a small business organization, who had approached Puyat after the war and asked him to take over as their president. His first official act was to expand the Chamber's membership roster in a bid to make it more powerful and dynamic.

It was as head of the PCC that Puyat found out that there were five boatloads of surplus construction material sitting in Manila Bay slated to be sold abroad. Immediately, the industrialist and nationalist in him saw a concrete opportunity and an easier beginning for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of a devastated Manila.



Puyat meeting with Paul McNutt in Manila.

Puyat appealed to Dr. Jose Reyes, secretary of President Sergio Osmeña, to prevail upon US Commissioner Paul McNutt to reconsider: if any construction was needed to be done it would be right in Manila. His idealism, it became evident, was matched by business savvy as Puyat then organized a syndicate among members of the Chamber of Commerce that would bid for the surplus goods-a bid quickly and easily won, and one that earned Puyat chairmanship of the syndicate.

This pushed the PCC into the center of the postwar buildup. Without benefit of official designation, but with the muscle of the reemerging middle class, the PCC became a real presence and a palpable force, not only among the local government institutions that were simultaneously undergoing rehabilitation, but also to the US Congress, as it deliberated war damage payments to the country.

Firmly entrenched as a prominent and influential pillar of the business world, Puyat continued to work hard to correct the imbalances he had been seen since his youthful days as an economics student. Little did he know that he would be given even more power and opportunities to do so with yet another career change that lay ahead.

The romantic economist taking the podium—and the limelight.

In 1949, Nacionalista Party President Senator Eulogio Rodriguez first approached Puyat and appealed to the young nationalist in him by offering him a candidacy for Senator. While the loss of Jose P. Laurel to Liberal Elpidio Quirino in the Presidential Elections stalled early plans for a political bid, politics—and the Party itself—seemed to be hell-bent in acquiring Puyat, who promptly found himself running in the next elections.

Puyat recalled his first push into politics as full of naive idealism and a growing feeling of self-doubt. He recalled, "At one time during the campaign I came back to Manila and told the President of the Party that I was withdrawing because I felt that my chances to win were nil. I would speak for half an hour on economics and I would get no applause. When the campaign was about to come to a close, all of the newspapers predicted that, at the most, the Nacionalista's would have only three winning candidates."

The next—and the rest of the things that happened—is history: the Nacionalista Party locked out the 1951 Senatorial Elections, cornering nine positions out of nine, and voters pushed Gil Puyat into a second position on the senatorial slate.

STATESMAN

Politics was to be his third professional career, after business and the academe, and Senator Puyat immediately got down to work. As Chairman of the Committee on Public Works in the early 50's, Puyat introduced, with much opposition even from his own party, a completely overhauled format for the Public Works Bill—one whose beneficial effects on the economy are felt up to now.

But perhaps Puyat's most notable economic achievement as Senator—and the one he was most proud of—came when he was positioned in Finance. The year was 1954, and at this time the country was still under the provisions of the Bell Trade Act of 1946, which inextricably tied the Philippine economy to the US economy, pegging the peso to the dollar, granting US citizens and corporations equal access to natural resources in the Philippines, enforcing free trade and allowing the US full importation of goods without any import duties.

Senate President Gil J. Puyat.

Ramon Magsaysay, who by 1953 had become President, appointed Puyat vice-chairman of an economic commission that would travel to Washington to renegotiate the Bell Trade Act. Puyat's economic background proved especially useful: over a period of several months, the commission ironed out the details and worked out a revised economic relationship between the Philippines and the US—the Laurel-Langley agreement, which abolished the United States' authority over the dollar-peso exchange rate and introduced progressive changes in trade relations between the US and the Philippines.

Puyat saw his next important achievement, the Performance Budget Act, as a reflection of his nationalist principles. Indeed, he described it as an instrument that would effect a change in income and wealth distribution. Idealism aside, Puyat's achievements as Senator were no less victories for him than they were for his party and the people—a clear manifestation of homegrown business principles that placed importance on people's welfare.

Puyat, of course, proved that principles and popular support were highly compatible, securing the number one spot in the 1957, 1963 and 1969 senatorial races, and becoming Senate President in 1967. By the time Congress was dissolved under Martial Law in 1972, Puyat had secured his place in history as a politician and a statesman.

EXAMPLE

Gil J. Puyat's political career continues to be the template for performance and the high watermark for excellence in public service.

Informed by a background in business and education, enriched by deep insight and cultivation, and fueled by a rare passion and idealism, Puyat has become a shining example for all Filipinos—no matter what their background, or what their field. His personal story has inspired an entire nation of Filipinos, and charted their entire history.

Gil and Eugenia Puyat at the testimonial dinner held in his honor, on his 72nd birthday.

BPI ASSET MANAGEMENT
Put Your Trust In Our Name

BDO

METROBANK
TRUST BANKING

MANILABANK
YOUR GOLDEN SAVINGS BANK

ING
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

WHAT'S INSIDE

Kobe leads US five past Argentina /A32

SPORTS

Website: www.inquirer.net/sports

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa

Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

telecare GLOBAL SOLUTIONS
Now Hiring Call Center Professionals
Hotline: 580-6530
Text ETEL(space)Name, Landline Number & Desired Position
Send to: 2327 (Globe Subscribers)
09178902327 (Non-Globe Subscribers)

Martinez leads tough Italy chess, cops GM result

Standings after eight rounds:
6.5 points—**IM Rolly Martinez (RP)**; 6.0—GM Vladimir Burmakin (Russia), GM Vladimir Epishin (Russia), GM Miso Cebalo (Croatia), IM Fabio Bruno (Italy); 5.5—GM Sergei Tiviakov (Netherlands), GM Giorgi Bagaturov (Georgia), GM Oleg Romanishin (Ukraine), GM Liuben Spassov (Bulgaria), GM Alberto David (Luxembourg), GM Michele Godena (Italy), GM Igor Khenkin (Netherlands), GM Csaba Horvath (Hungray),GM Csaba Horvath (Hungray), IM Llambi Qendro (Albania), IM Jacob Aagaard (Scotland), IM Adam Hunt (England), IM Sebastian Siebrecht (Germany), FM Yakup Erturan (Turkey), FM Alessio De Santis (Italy); 5.0—**Roland Salvador (RP)** in a tie with 18 others.

FILIPINO INTERNATIONAL MASter Rolly Martinez agreed to an eight-move draw with IM Fabio Bruno of Italy in their Sicilian-Alapin skirmish Thursday to keep the solo lead and earn his first GM result with only one round left in the grandmaster-laden 27th International Chess Festival in Bratto, Italy.

The Milan-based Martinez raised his pacesetting total to 6.5 points, accumulating a total performance rating of 2667 going to the last round Friday.

Martinez will handle black in his last match against Russian Grandmaster Vladimir Burmakin, who totes 6.0 points, in what is likely to be a battle for the title of the event which lured 120 players, including some of the world's finest GMs.

Even if Martinez loses, his GM norm is secure due to the high average rating of his opponents.

He lost to GM Vladimir Epishin of Russia in the third round but bested GM Michele Godena of Israel and top seed GM Sergei Tiviakov (Elo 2648) of the Netherlands, a former World Championship candidate.

Martinez, the Philippines' 14th-ranked player with an Elo of 2428, also beat German IM Michael Hoffman. In Genova, Italy, last year, he scored 7 out of 9 points, but missed a GM result because he only played two GMs, instead of the minimum three.

Another Filipino, IM Roland Salvador, settled for a truce with IM Flavio Guido of Italy, dimming his chances to nail his third and final GM result. Salvador was at 5.0 points in the company of GM Gyula Sax of Hungary, GM Pawel Jaracz of Poland, GM Igor Efimov of Monaco, his last-round opponent IM Matha Fierro Baquero of Ecuador.

Defending champion GM Erald Dervishi of Albania led the huge group of 4.5 pointers.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

MARTINEZ

Warriors eye win No. 12; Eagles take on Bulldogs

STANDINGS	W	L
UE	11	0
La Salle	8	3
Ateneo	6	4
UST	6	5
FEU	6	5
NU	4	6
Adamson	1	9
UP	0	10

GAMES TODAY
(Cuneta Astrodome)
2 p.m.—Adamson vs Ateneo
4 p.m.—FEU vs UE

IT SEEMS THAT EVerybody has given up on chasing University of the East.

But Warriors coach Dindo Pumaren hasn't totally ditched the idea of someone sneaking up on them, and that may be the reason why he wants his wards to burst from the gates right at tip-off today.

The unbeaten Warriors face the Far Eastern U Tamaraws at 4 p.m. in the UAAP men's basketball tournament at the Cuneta Astrodome.

"We must start aggressive and dictate the tempo right away; there's no reason for us to take any team for granted," said Pumaren as the Warriors aim for their 12th straight victory at 4 p.m. at the Cuneta Astrodome.

The Warriors have already claimed the twice-to-beat advantage in the Final Four. But the Recto-based crew can earn an outright Finals berth if it sweeps the elimination round.

Against the backdrop of that possible sweep by UE is the frenetic chase for the three remaining Final Four slots among four squads, among them the Tamaraws and the Ateneo Blue Eagles, who will fight to keep solo third versus the Adamson Falcons at 2 p.m.

The Eagles aim to build on the confidence gained from their thrilling escape against defending champion University of Santo Tomas, 72-71, last Thursday.

"There's a lot of momentum coming into the next game," said Ateneo coach Norman Black.

The Eagles, running third at 6-4, struggled against the Falcons in the first round, before pulling off a 69-63 overtime victory.

Coach Glenn Capacio, meanwhile, also hopes his Tamaraws will do better in their second meeting with the Warriors after a first-round blowout loss at 89-60.

"[UE] clobbered us in the first round," said Capacio. "This time I hope we put up a fight."

Jasmine W. Payo

SAN BEDA'S Sam Ekwe scores off a slam dunk. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

FIGHT-MARRED MATCH

San Beda gets back at Letran

By Marc Anthony Reyes

FUELED BY NOTHING MORE THAN REvenge, the Red Lions bit into the Knights' armors and feasted on their first-round tormentors.

Ogie Menor, Borgie Hermida and Jay-R Taganas combined for 17 points in the fourth quarter to help defending champion San Beda subdue Letran, 87-84, last night in yet another emotion-charged NCAA men's basketball game at the Araneta Coliseum.

Hardly anything was at stake for San Beda. The Lions already had a lock on a twice-to-beat edge in the Final Four, after all.

But the memory of a stinging 70-69 setback was still fresh in their minds and with the king of the Lion pride kept in the freezer, San Beda turned to a trio of former Cubs—products of a vaunted San Beda high school program—to hammer out payback time against the Knights, who gallantly fought back from 17 points down only to lose steam in the end.

Menor, Hermida and Taganas picked up the cudgels for San Beda, which voluntarily sat out skipper Yousif Aljamal to put an end to a controversy triggered by the latter's decision to join the PBA rookie draft.

"Well that's the Lions' blood in them," said San Beda coach Frankie Lim of the three.

Menor topscored with 21 points, while Hermida had 17, including a triple to give San Beda an 85-80 buffer with 33.5 seconds to go.

Taganas, the hefty, seldom-used forward, also took a star turn by making seven of his nine points in the final period.

It was the 11th win in 12 games for San Beda, which is now assured of the top spot in the Final Four. Letran suffered its third loss in 11 matches, but is still on track for a twice-to-beat incentive.

Things weren't heated only on the court. Off it, a free-for-all broke loose after the game, with Letran fans reportedly engaging some of San Beda's team staff in a melee.

STANDINGS	W	L
San Beda	11	1
Letran	8	3
Jose Rizal	7	4
Mapua	6	6
SSC	4	7
Perpetual	3	8
St. Benilde	1	11

GAMES MONDAY
(The Arena)
11:30 a.m.—SSC vs Perpetual (jrs)
2 p.m.—SSC vs Perpetual (srs)
4 p.m.—Letran vs Jose Rizal (srs)

The varsity scores:

SAN BEDA 87—Menor 21, Hermida 17, Escobal 14, Ekwe 12, Taganas 9, Maggay 8, Gamalinda 4, Marcelo 2, Lanete 0, Tirona 0.

LETRAN 84—Jazul 23, Guevarra 14, Quinday 12, Daa 10, Cabonce 9, Faundo 7, Gutilban 6, Dangcal 2, Melegrito 1, Reposar 0, Del Rosario 0.

Quarters: 22-19, 40-29, 68-57, 87-84

Lascuña vaults to 5th after 65; La'O out

TONY LASCUÑA SOARED AND COOKIE La'O tumbled out yesterday as Filipinos suffered mixed fortunes in the second round of the Brunei Open at the par-71 Empire Hotel and Country Club in Brunei Darussalam.

Lascuña, fresh off a best-ever finish on the Asian Tour—joint second place in last week's Iskandar Johor Open in Malaysia won by compatriot Artemio Murakami, kept his steady form to shoot a five-under-par 65.

He carded six birdies and a bogey to move 36 rungs up from a share of 41st to joint fifth after 36 holes.

With a 136 total, Lascuña, however, trailed the solo leader, former Philippine Open champion Adam Le Visconte of Australia, by six shots.

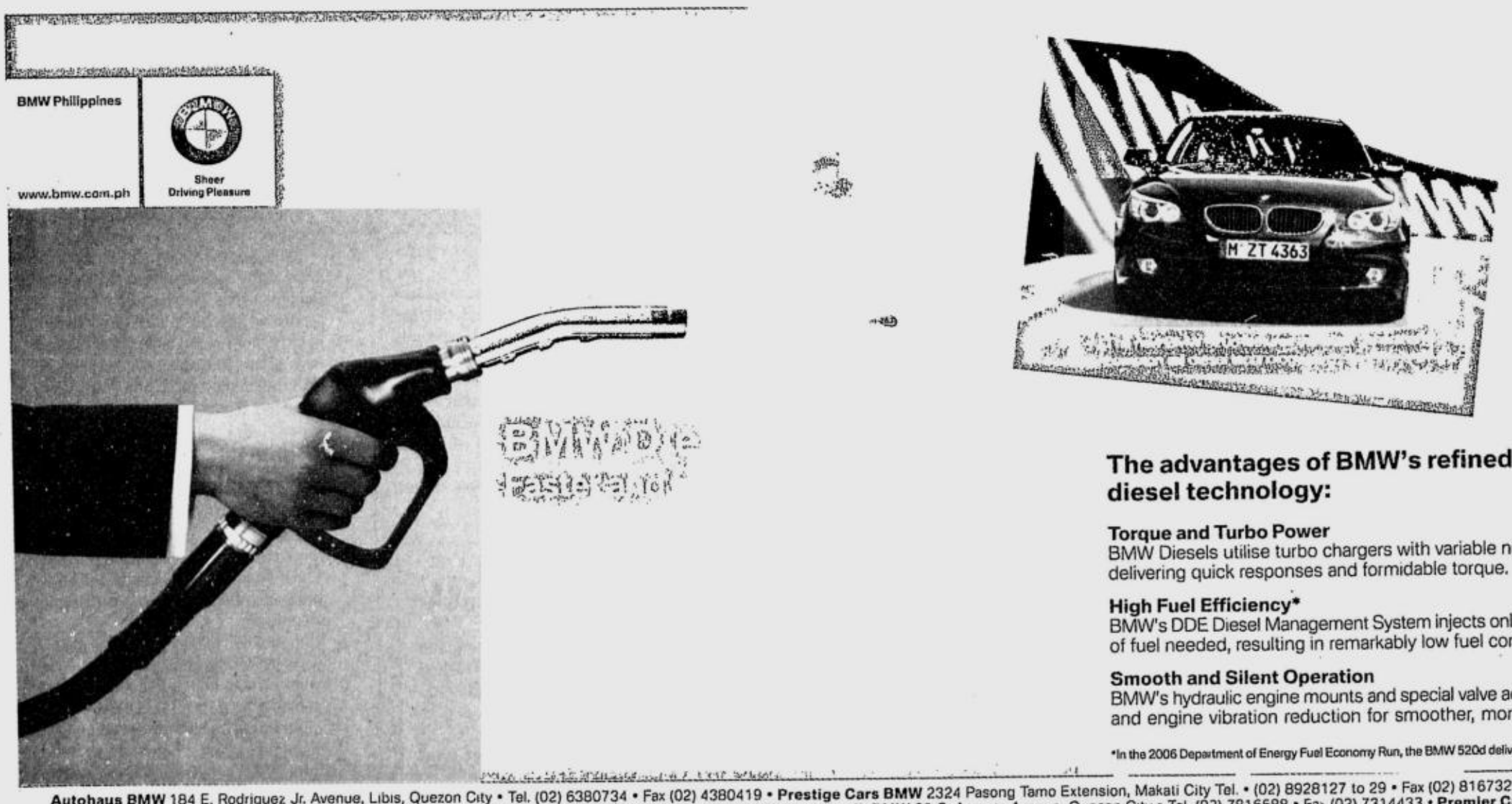
Le Visconte fired a second consecutive 65 for 130 and leads Lin Wen-tang by three.

Murakami likewise improved six notches from 30th to a share of 24th with his 70-139.

La'O, just three shots off the pace after a first-round 68, had a disastrous 77 and missed the cut of the $300,000 event.

Jong Arcano

LASCUÑA: 6 behind



The advantages of BMW's refined diesel technology:

Torque and Turbo Power
BMW Diesels utilise turbo chargers with variable nozzle technology, delivering quick responses and formidable torque.

High Fuel Efficiency*
BMW's DDE Diesel Management System injects only the precise amount of fuel needed, resulting in remarkably low fuel consumption.

Smooth and Silent Operation
BMW's hydraulic engine mounts and special valve adjusters ensure noise and engine vibration reduction for smoother, more comfortable rides.

*In the 2006 Department of Energy Fuel Economy Run, the BMW 520d delivered as low as 21.7 km per liter.

Autohaus BMW 184 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Libis, Quezon City • Tel. (02) 6380734 • Fax (02) 4380419 • **Prestige Cars BMW** 2324 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City Tel. • (02) 8928127 to 29 • Fax (02) 8167325 • **Autozentrum BMW** Madrigal Business Park, Commerce Avenue, Alabang, Muntinlupa • Tel. (02) 7726021 to 24 • Fax (02) 7726025 • **Klassik BMW** 20 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City • Tel. (02) 7816688 • Fax (02) 7314433 • **Premier Cars BMW** CGIC Building, San Fernando-Olongapo Highway, City of San Fernando, Pampanga • Tel. (045) 9637777 • Fax (045) 9633355 • **Performance Auto BMW** Magallanes St. cor. P. Burgos St., Cebu City • Tel (032) 2563491• Fax (032) 2563492

Koreans spice up PBA preseason mix

By Musong R. Castillo

THE PHILIPPINE BASKETBALL ASSOciation's preseason games kick off Sept. 8 with a club team from South Korea putting international flavor in the tournament.

Reigning Fiesta Cup champion Alaska is in Group A together with San Miguel Beer, Red Bull, Coca-Cola and Sta. Lucia, while Purefoods, Talk 'N Text, Air21, Welcoat and defending Philippine Cup champion Barangay Ginebra will compose Group B.

The KT&G Team from Korea will play a total of only five games and the results of those games will not reflect on the preseason standings of the regular PBA squads.

The Koreans are slated to tangle with the Aces, Beermen, Tigers, Barako and the souped-up Dragons.

Ginebra and Purefoods open the tournament on Saturday in Cavite City at 4 p.m., before Welcoat slugs it out with the Koreans at The Arena in San Juan on Sept. 10.

The Korea-Welcoat tussle will be held simultaneously with the Talk 'N Text-Air21 contest scheduled at the Fresnedi gym in Muntinlupa. Both games will be played at 4 p.m.

Tournament format allows each team to play 18 men and try out their new faces before the top teams from each group slug it out in the title game.

Alaska won this tournament last year.

Other games scheduled at The Arena: (KT&G Korea vs Aces on Sept 11, KT&G Korea vs Beermen on Sept. 12, KT&G Korea vs Barakos on Sept. 13, and KT&G Korea vs Tigers on Sept. 14) while two more out-of-town games are scheduled in Pampanga on the 12th (TNT vs Ginebra) and Tarlac, Tarlac on the 16th (Ginebra vs Welcoat).

Slight fever downs Pacquiao

By Salven Lagumbay
Contributor

PACQUIAO

MANNY PACQUIAO skipped training yesterday due to a slight fever but is expected to be back at the Rex "Wakee" Salud gym today to continue the hard grind for his highly anticipated Oct. 6 rematch with Marco Antonio Barrera.

Pacquiao wrapped up a two-day training where a crew sent to Cebu by cable television network HBO filmed his morning runs as well as his daily activities, including the afternoon workouts.

"He was already feeling a little weak yesterday, but he just had to continue because of the HBO crew," said a Team Pacquiao insider.

A member of Pacquiao's entourage arrived around 3 p.m. yesterday to inform a group of media men, who had been waiting for the Filipino icon, that the workout was off.

Sources said Pacquiao spent the afternoon with 11-month-old daughter Mary Divine Grace and wife Jinkee at the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel where they are staying.

Fernando puts a foot inside RP golf squad

By Musong R. Castillo

SILANG, CAVITE—MARK FERNANDO fashioned out a second straight one-under-par 71 yesterday and topped the first phase of the NGAP Qualifiers by a whopping six strokes at the Couples layout of The Riviera here.

The 24-year-old spearhead of the National Caddies' Open program based at Calatagan Golf Club birdied two o[c] his last six holes to wind up with a 285 total and put a foot inside the National pool with still four rounds to play at the nearby Langer layout next week.

"Playing for the Philippines has always been a dream for me," Fernando told the INQUIRER in Filipino. "There many things that can still happen. I just want a slot (in the team), and topping this event would just be a bonus."

Anthony Fernando, Mark's cousin and leader in the first two rounds, fired a 74 but still managed to tie for second at 291 with former Eastridge caddy Ferdinand Aunzo, who closed out with a 73.

Jonel Ababa, the first NCO champion from the Apo Golf in Davao, skied to a 78 but held on to solo fourth spot, a further stroke back.

Asian Games bronze medal winner Michael Bibat churned out a 73 for 294, while amateur ace Jay Bayron limped home with his first truly bad round of the tournament—a 76—which put him in the bubble in sixth spot at 295.

There will only be six RP team slots that will be filled after the last four rounds starting Tuesday. These teams will represent the Philippines in the Nomura and Putra Cups and the Southeast Asian Games later in the year.

Gene Bondoc, a member of the ICTSI pool like Bayron, shot a 75 for seventh-best 297.

Only 15 players advanced, but those behind Bondoc would need truly great rounds to make the grade. The nearest, Miko Alejandro (77), takes a 303 total into the final four days, 18 strokes off the pace.

Jessie Balasabas (77-305), James Ryan Lim (75-306), Zannieboy Gialon (74-307), Buboy Jaraula (76-307), Rufino Bayron (78-307), Paul Echavez (78-308) and Jong Laput (74-310) were the others who advanced.

The notables who failed to move on were former RP team member Erwin Vinluan, who threw away an opening-day 75 with scores in the 80s in the next three for 318, and junior hotshot Tonlits Asistio (79-325).

MARK Fernando leads the field by six shots. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

SPORTSWATCH

Fiery Paeng puts away 117th career championship

NEPOMUCENO

FOUR-TIME WORLD Cup champion Paeng Nepomuceno bagged the 10th Amba-Pepsi Open Masters title at Gameworx in Festival Mall, Alabang, Muntinlupa, recently.

The masters victory was 117th for Nepomuceno.

"This win is a nice addition to my masters titles," said Nepomuceno, whose triumph came 35 years after his first victory.

He was only 15 when he won the 1972 Philippine Open Junior Championships.

The United States Bowling Congress ambassador topped the 12-game elimination with 2732 pinfalls, then whipped Gatchalian, 258-215, in the stepladder finals where he came one point short of a perfect game in the sixth game.

He is scheduled to compete next in the South Pacific Classic in September in Melbourne, Australia.

Lima stars as Hawklets rip Univ. of Makati dribblers

ANGELO LIMA UNLOADED 26 POINTS TO lead University of Manila's 92-69 drubbing of University of Makati and entry into the finals of the National Athletics Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (Naascu) junior basketball at the New Era gym.

Lima typified the Hawklets' game-long supremacy as they marched to their fifth straight championship appearance and a possible "four-peat."

UM will meet the winner of the St. Clare-San Sebastian Cavite match still being played at press time.

Three other Hawklets scored in double digits, with Kevin Rabalo, Andy Dizon and Evan Hernandez finishing with 17, 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Marc Anthony Reyes

NCA gears up for first leg of five-stag derby series

THE NATIONAL COCKER'S ASSOCIATION (NCA), the premier and most prestigious organization of gamefowl breeders and aficionados in the country, will host a 5-stag derby on Tuesday, at the fully air-conditioned Pasay City cockpit.

Some of the country's finest cockfighters are vying in the derby hosted by Rizal Gov. Ito Yñares, Vice Gov. Boyet Joson, Mayor Ellan Nagaño, and the Firefly Group.

Participants include Bebot Villar, Rey Briones, Mario Villamor, Manny Pacquiao, Chair Rudy Albano, Efren Canlas, Jun Jingco, Jet Fernandez, the Madlangbayan brothers, Gerry Ramos, Patrick Antonio, Danny Valero, Rep. Iggy Arroyo, Iya Bella, Paul Estrallado, Benjie Lim, William Go, Bebot Uy of Davao, Johnny Jalandoni and Boy Velez, Ricky Reyes, and Boy Marzo.

90 fights up in 'Showdown' stagfest in San Juan today

MORE THAN 90 FIGHTS ARE ON THE roster in the 3-stag elimination round of the "Pitgames Showdown" 6-stag derby starting at 2 p.m. today at San Juan Collseum.

The second second round is on Monday and the championship on Wednesday.

Set to test the mettle of their new fighters in the derby, backed by Progressive Poultry Supply, Lakpue Drug Inc., Excellence Gamefowl Specialists and Thunderbird, are members of, among others, the Negros, Panay, Rizal, Batangas breeders clubs. A P1.5 million guaranteed prize is at stake, said hosts Danny Ty and Manny Berbano.

'Super Pacman' stagfest set at Makati Coliseum

AN IMPRESSIVE LINEUP OF BIG-TIME stag derbies takes centerstage at Makati Coliseum next week, beginning with the "Super Pacman" 5-stag derby on Monday with B-Meg Derby Ace and Gran Matador as sponsors.

About P600,000 in guaranteed prize awaits the champions in the derby hosted by boxing hero Manny Pacquiao's Super Pacman group. Entry fee is P22,000.

The Pinoy Cockers Association of the Philippines (PCAP) 5-stag derby series starts on Sept. 5, while Rainier Kau of Ilocos presents the "Sitio Maumel 5-stag derby" on Sept. 8.

Pharex Health PBL's new kid on the block

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE PHILIPPINE BASKETBALL LEAGUE (PBL) HAS injected new blood for its next season after accepting Pharex Health Corp. as its latest member.

League commissioner Chino Trinidad said yesterday the PBL board unanimously approved the entry of Pharex, producer of quality medicines and a subsidiary of top pharmaceutical company Pascual Laboratories.

"Just like the other regular team members, Pharex hopes to contribute to the development of basketball through its participation in the league," said Trinidad.

Pharex team manager Jean Alabanza said the team is eyeing a top UAAP center and a Cebuano standout to form the team's cornerstone. The head coach will be named in time for the October start of the new season.

"I'm still negotiating with some other players," said Alabanza, a former Ateneo stalwart. "We hope we could lure some of the top players in the UAAP and NCAA. We're also looking for young defensive-minded and team-oriented players."

"We hope to form a team that can give us a credible and competitive chance against the established teams," Pharex Health president Beau Agana and Pascual Laboratories division manager Ding Camua wrote in a letter to Trinidad.

The regular PBL members include three-time conference champion Harbour Centre, Toyota Balintawak, Magnolia of San Miguel Corp., Wel-best and Hapee Toothpaste of Lamoiyan Corp.

League chair Gil Angeles said Pharex's inclusion is a "big boost" and an indication that the amateur league is "healthy and stable."

PBL executive director Butch Maniego also disclosed that discussions are afoot for the entry of two more companies next season. *Jasmine W. Payo*

Marcelo grabs overall lead with 2nd win

STEFANO Marcelo roars to the finish unaware he's missing a key axle bolt.

JAKARTA, INDONESIA—YOUNG karter Stefano Marcelo turned back tough foreign rivals to capture his second straight victory recently in the third leg of the 2007 Asian Karting Open Championship at the Sentul International Circuit here.

With the win, the 15-year-old Marcelo grabbed the overall lead of the Asian Karting title race over Johnny Afonso of Macau and Italian Luka Ferruguti.

It was one tough grind for Stefano, who raced with makeshift parts in the premiere Formula 125 Seniors Open against a talented field of 23 drivers from nine participating countries.

Even more stunning was the discovery by the Marcelo crew that there wasn't any pinch bolt holding the axle of the kart after the final race.

"I'm very happy I was able to raise the flag up high here despite the struggles we went through," said Stefano.

"I just hope I can maintain the lead in the coming legs and fulfill the second of my three goals this year."

He captured the pole position with just one flying lap but had to run all of Saturday's qualifying heats as slow as possible to conserve the tires. The Marcelo Racing crew later discovered a fractured rear brake rotor.

The team borrowed a spare rotor from event organizer Johnny Tan, and chief engineer Jed Neri managed to adapt it into the brake system.

From 23rd place, Stefano moved up to ninth only to collide with an Indonesian. He fell back to 11th place.

Though badly shaken by the incident that left him with a damaged front and a bent rear axle, Marcelo managed to regain his composure and mustered everything he got to finish fifth in the Pre-Final event.

The Marcelo Racing crew gave Stefano the needed push to jump into fourth spot in the first lap. Driving aggressively, he grabbed the overall lead in the fifth lap for good.

St. Francis, PSBA cagers drub foes

ST. FRANCIS OF ASsisi College and Philippine School of Business Administration scored contrasting wins yesterday to keep their hold on second spot in the sixth Universities and Colleges Athletic Association (UCAA) men's basketball tournament at the EAC gym.

GAMES TUESDAY
(Aguilar Sports Complex)
10 a.m. ACSAT vs Olivarez
11:30 a.m. EAC vs UCN
1 p.m. La Salle-Dasma vs PSBA
2:30 p.m. St. Francis vs Las Pinas College

The SFAC Doves sustained a big offensive run in the first quarter to clobber the La Salle-Dasmariñas Patriots, 72-58.

In the next game, the PSBA Jaguars weathered a late rally and got two decisive free throws from Vic Manuel in the last 19 seconds to turn back the Olivarez College Sea Lions, 83-80.

The Doves and the Jaguars are tied at 2-1.

ES Santos unloaded 15 points, including a triple, as the Doves took a 16-6 lead with 2:38 to go in the opening period.

The Doves then limited the Patriots to just nine points in the second quarter.

GEJON: Solid crack

Gejon out to nail RP's 4th world title today

ERIBERTO "YUKKA" GEJON WILL ATTEMPT to become the country's fourth reigning boxing world champion when he challenges WBA minimumweight champion Yutaka Niida in a 12-round showdown at the Korakuen Hall in Tokyo, Japan.

This will be a rematch of the fighters' September 2005 battle which ended in a disputed 10th-round technical decision win for the Japanese. Gejon's camp and superstar Manny Pacquiao, who watched the fight, thought the Filipino won that bout, however.

Pacquiao's business associate Rex "Wakee" Salud, who manages Gejon, took a break from his hosting job of Team Pacquiao in Cebu yesterday and flew to Japan.

Since their first encounter, the Mandaue City-raised Gejon (23-1-1, 14 KOs) has racked up two wins over Thai foes, while Niida (21-1-3, 8 KOs) defended his title twice over Ronald Barrera and Katsunari Takayama.

Veteran Australian referee Derek Milham will be the third man in today's rematch.

Salven L. Lagumbay, Contributor

Kobe begins Tour with Manila visit

BRYANT REUTERS

EVERYTHING IS set for the visit of National Basketball Association superstar Kobe Bryant to Manila on Sept. 5.

Bryant's visit begins with a meeting with kids from the Eliseo Belen Charity at Nike Park, The Fort, at 2 p.m. The Lakers guard will then headline the Kobe Supernatural Manila Event at the PhilSports Arena, where he will share his training regimen with young Filipino cagers at 3 p.m.

The Manila visit is part of the Kobe Bryant Supernatural Asia Tour 2007 where new versions of Kobe II will be introduced. The shoes will be available on Sept 6.

After Manila, Kobe's next stops are Taipei, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Beijing.

Nike will also launch a special Kobe Tour shirt for the occasion.

"Kobe Bryant serves as a basketball icon, inspiration and role-model to a lot of our young Filipino athletes," said Nike Philippines country marketing manager Melissa Crucillo.

Alcano nips Yang in Guinness pool

RONNIE Alcano: Shooting for the big bucks.

FILIPINO DOUBLE WORLD CHAMPION Ronato Alcano bucked a fiery rally by Indonesian Rick Yang to prevail, 9-7, at the start of the 2007 Guinness 9-Ball Tour Grand Final Friday at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Bali, Indonesia.

The 34-year-old Alcano, the reigning World Pool Association 8-ball and 9-ball titlist, saw Yang recover from a 6-3 deficit to tie the count twice before pulling off the victory in 1 hour and 49 minutes.

Yang had a chance to reach the hill in the 15th frame but scratched his mother ball on the break.

"The turning point was when Ricky scratched in the 15th rack," Alcano said in Filipino. "It was there that I gained an 8-7 edge while holding the break."

Alcano surged to a 4-0 lead despite Yang taking the opening lag Yang moved to within 4-2, but Alcano held on for a 6-3 lead.

Egged on by the crowd, Yang managed to tie the count at 6 and 7 only to yield to Alcano's accurate shots.

Former world 9-ball champion Wu Chia-ching of Taiwan edged compatriot Yang Ching-shun, 9-8, to join Alcano in the win column in Group A.

In Group B, Filipino Lee Vann Corteza opened his bid against Singaporean Bernard Tey Choon-kiat and Chao Fong-pao last night. *Marlon Bernandino, Contributor*

St. Scho five, SBC-Alabang dispute lead

REIGNING TITLIST ST. SCHOLASTICA'S College and San Beda College Alabang dispute the solo lead in the juniors division while La Salle College Antipolo eyes a similar result in the midgets event of the 38th WNCAA volleyball tournament today at the RTU gym.

Over at the SSC gym, Chiang Kai Shek College and De La Salle Zobel likewise shoots for the leadership in junior basketball.

The SBCA Red Lions and SSC Scions square off at 12:30 p.m., both eyeing a third win.

The LSCA Voyagers would also clinch win number three if it beats Miriam College (1-0) in the 11:30 a.m. match.

The DLSZ cagers meet St. Francis of Assisi College (0-1) at 8:30 a.m. and CKSC tackles St. Stephen's High School (0-2) at 1 p.m.

In senior basketball tomorrow, either host Lyceum University of the Philippines or College of St. Benilde, both toting 3-0 cards, would remain on top of Group A when they clash at 11 a.m. at the Lyceum gym.

SFAC targets a 4-0 slate and solo Group B lead at 2 p.m. against University of Asia & the Pacific (0-2).

Lyceum also tries to preserve the lead and its clean slate (3-0) in Group A volleyball against Rizal Technological University at noon while Emilio Aguinaldo College (2-0) aims to remain the only unbeaten Group B squad versus Centro Escolar University (1-1) at 11 a.m.

Defending senior futsal champ UA&P goes for its third win against EAC at noon at the Club 650 gym in Libis while Miriam and DLSZ fight for the juniors lead at 9 a.m.

Task Force trims SEAG bets to 609

JOSEPH

By June Navarro

THE JOINT TASK force of the Philippine Olympic Committee and the Philippine Sports Commission is already in the final stretch of data gathering for the composition of the national team to the Thailand Southeast Asian Games on Dec. 6-16.

SEAG Task Force spokesperson Mark Joseph said 90 percent of the entire delegation could already be named come Sept. 15 and would be completed by the end of the month.

From 729 candidate-athletes, the Task Force has trimmed the list to 609, from which the final lineup would emerge for the Oct. 8 deadline on the submission of entries by names to the SEAG organizing committee in Thailand.

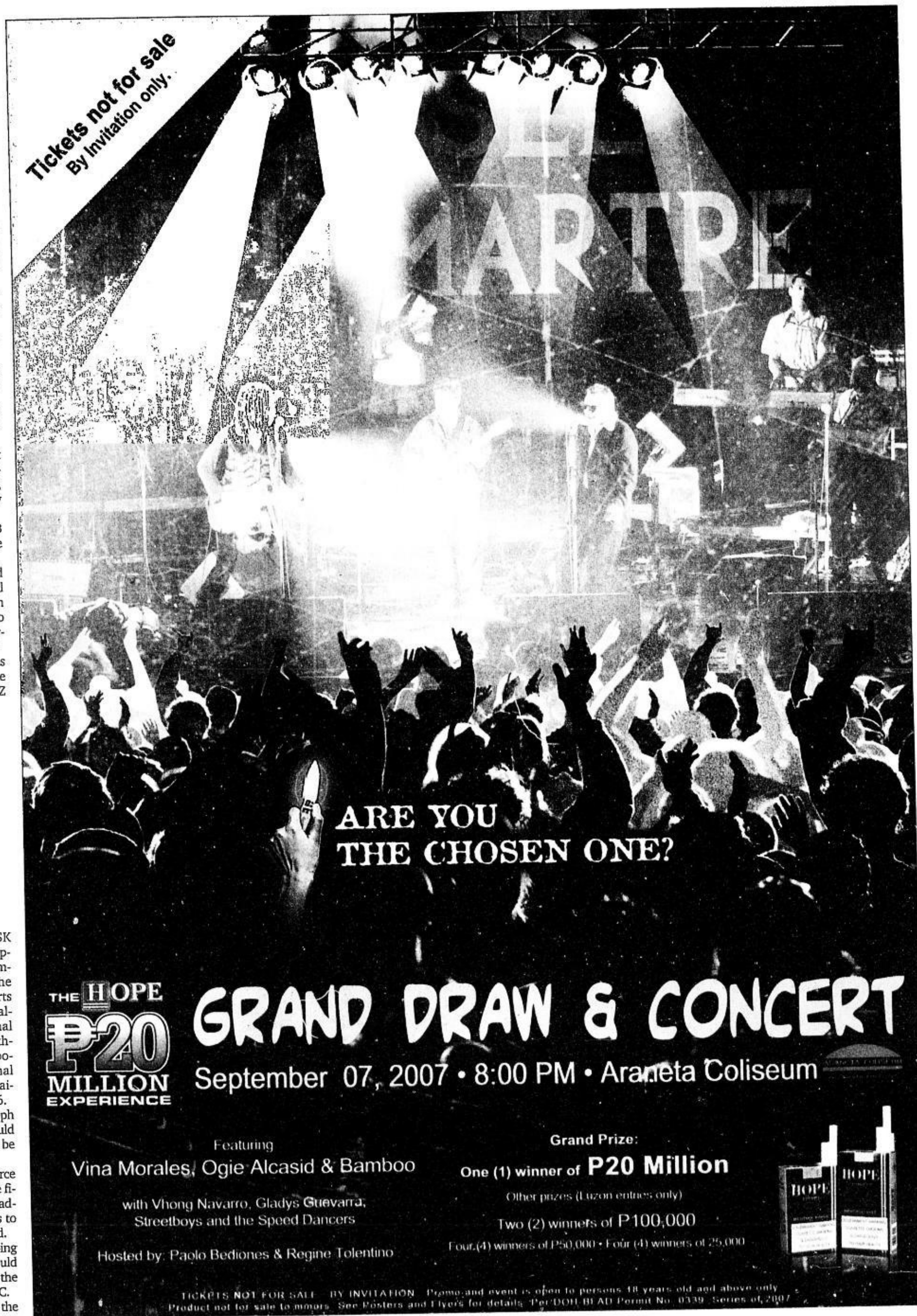
Joseph said the final figure of athletes going to the 24th edition of the biennial games could be between 558 to 609, depending on the funding to be raised by the PSC and the POC.

"Funding is still the issue with respect to the size of the delegation," said Joseph, deputy secretary-general of the POC and swimming association president. "The inclusion of some of the team sports will depend on the money that will come in," he added.

The PSC is set to earmark P50 million for the participation of the national team. That figure, however, could only accommodate 450 athletes and 200 coaches and officials.

Some team sports like polo, futsal and rugby were asked to find a private benefactor which will shoulder the expenses of their athletes.

With 485 gold medals at stake, Team Philippines will field entries in 42 of the 46 events to be contested in three venues—Nakhon Rachasima, Pattaya and Bangkok.



Government Warning:
Cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health.

Maria sharp as ever

Sharapova leads march of favorites

NEW YORK—MARIA SHARAPOVA WON her second straight match in under an hour, overwhelming 90th-ranked Casey Dellacqua of Australia, 6-1, 6-0, Thursday night to quickly reach the third round of the US Open.

After routing Roberta Vinci in 50 minutes in her opening-round match, Sharapova needed only 51 minutes Thursday on the Arthur Ashe Stadium court.

The second-seeded Sharapova already had won seven of the first eight games when she disagreed with an official's ruling and argued a bit with the chair umpire. The defending champion's dad was even more agitated in the stands, holding an animated conversation with her agent.

"It's only going to get tougher from here," Sharapova said, "so I'm looking forward to the challenge."

Earlier Thursday, Martina Hingis broke her pattern, Svetlana Kuznetsova pounded away and Andy Roddick won but wasn't happy in reaching the third round.

After Hingis and 106th-ranked Pauline Parmentier of France traded six straight service breaks, the 1997 Open champion closed out the match, 6-2, 7-5.

Parmentier was two points from evening the match when Hingis held serve to tie it at 5-all. With temperatures in the low 30s Celsius (upper 80s Fahrenheit), the 16th-seeded Swiss swiftly took control.

"I didn't want to play a third set in this heat," Hingis said.

The fourth-seeded Kuznetsova didn't dally in beating Camille Pin of France, 6-3, 4-6, 6-0. The former U.S. Open champion seemed especially determined after missing an easy forehand that lost the second set.

"It was too late to change anything," Kuznetsova said. "From this moment, I just started to turn it on."

Frustrated in the first set, Roddick wound up advancing when Jose Acasuso of Argentina quit because of a bad left knee while trailing, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

"That's not the way you want to get through," said Roddick, who was celebrating his 25th birthday.

Nicole Vaidisova had the loudest shot of the day session. The Czech severely bent her racket when she slammed it into a chair during a changeover, then came back to sweep a tiebreaker and beat Flavia Pennetta, 6-2, 7-6 (0). *AP*

SHARAPOVA: Done in less than 60 minutes. AFP

THORPE AP

Australia drug agency clears swimmer Thorpe

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—AUSTRALIA'S SPORTS doping agency has cleared champion swimmer Ian Thorpe of doping charges fueled in March when urine tests showed elevated levels of two banned substances.

"The evidence available does not indicate the use of performance enhancing substances by Mr. Thorpe," the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority said in a statement.

"He has no case to answer."

Thorpe welcomed the Asada decision.

"My reputation as a fair competitor in swimming is the thing I value most," he said in a statement. "I have always been, and remain, a strong supporter of anti-doping testing.

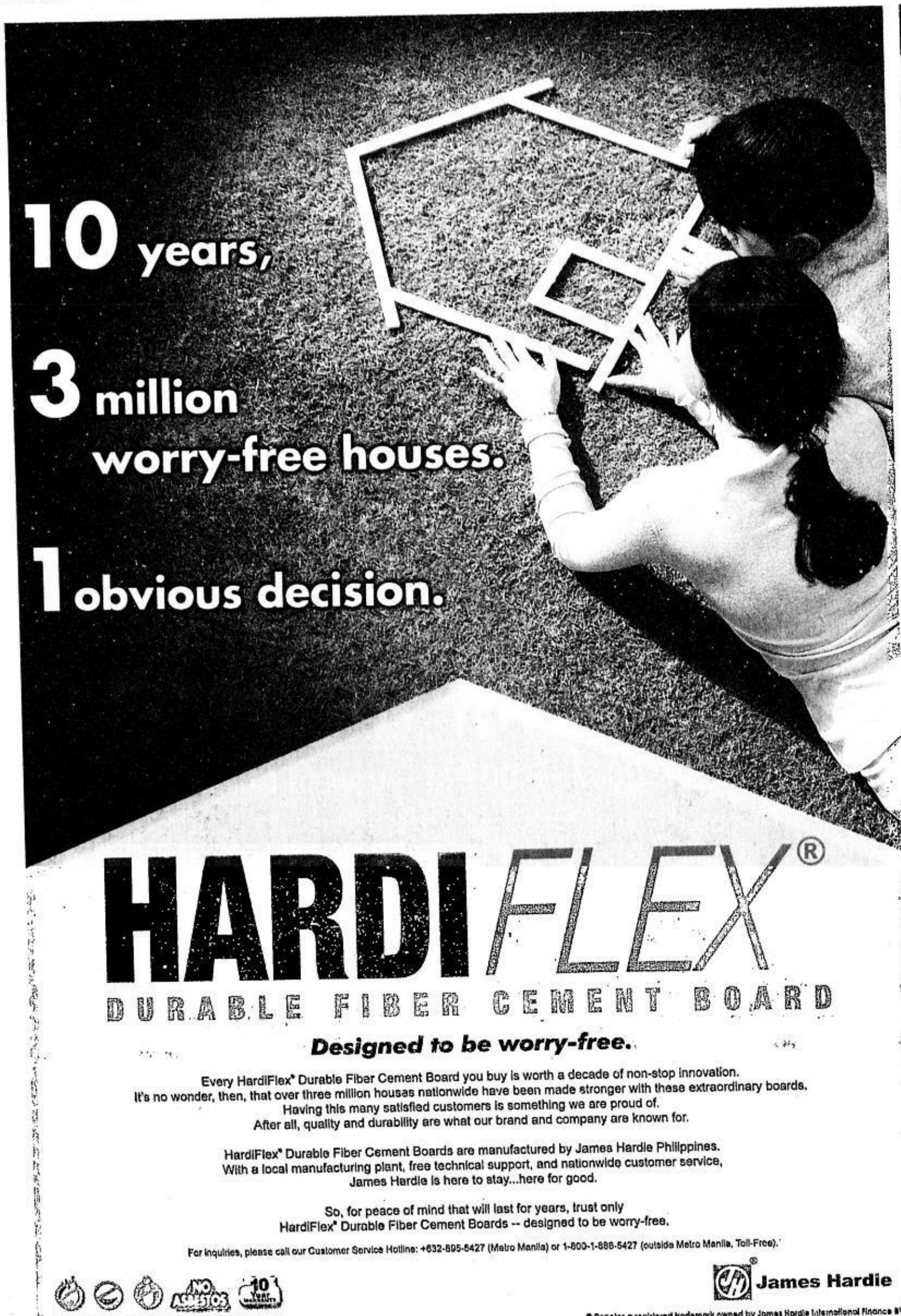
"I firmly believe drugs have no place in sport. I took my obligations to comply with the anti-doping codes very seriously and prided myself on this."

Thorpe became embroiled in the doping investigation when a urine sample taken in May, 2006 showed elevated levels of testosterone and epitestosterone.

The French newspaper Equipe reported the test results in March this year at the time of the swimming world championships in Melbourne, sparking a wider inquiry.

Asada had, by that time, decided not to pursue a doping investigation against the retired Thorpe because it believed the substances were naturally-occuring. It was forced to revisit that stance when swimming's international body (Fina) appealed the decision to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Thorpe, 24, set out immediately to clear his name and earlier this month provided medical evidence to Asada which, he said, proved the high levels of testosterone and epitestosterone shown in last year's test were naturally occcuring. *AP*



KOBE Bryant elevates for a shot against the token defense of Argentina's Juan Pedro Gutierrez. AP

Americans book semis match vs Puerto Ricans

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA—KOBE Bryant scored 27 points, including 15 in the first quarter, as the US easily beat Argentina, 91-76, to keep its perfect record intact at the Fiba America's Olympic qualifying tournament.

The Americans led 49-30 at the half in the battle of the tournament's only remaining undefeated teams in front of a crowd of about 5,500 at the Thomas and Mack Center arena on Thursday.

But any notion that Argentina would pose the first real test to the American's team of NBA stars was dismissed in the opening quarter of the second round match thanks to Bryant's dynamic performance.

"It is not about making LeBron James happy or Kobe Bryant happy or Carmelo Anthony happy," said LeBron James, who had 15 points and six rebounds. "It is not about making one guy happy and getting him the most shots. It is about sharing the ball and winning the gold medal.

"If somebody scores we congratulate him and move on. If we share the ball we give ourselves a good chance."

With the win the US moves on as the No. 1 seed in the semifinals where it will face Puerto Rico, which beat Canada earlier Thursday, 72-66.

The Americans have yet to be challenged and are now a perfect 7-0.

Argentina, playing without NBA stars Manu Ginobili, Fabricio Oberto, Andres Nocioni and Walter Herrmann, will now focus on winning their next match against Brazil for a berth in the Beijing Games.

A vocal group of about 150 Argentina fans, wearing their team's blue and white colors, kept up a steady cheer and even drowned out some of the chants of USA, USA at the Las Vegas arena.

Carlos Arroyo scored a game-high 22 points including four from three point range as Puerto Rico beat Canada.

Puerto Rico earned a berth in the semifinals of Fiba-sponsored basketball tournament by holding off a spirited fourth quarter rally by the Canadians, who will get a chance compete in Beijing at a second qualifying tournament next July.

Arroyo, a member of the Orlando Magic of the National Basketball Association, shot nine-for-15 from the field, scoring 10 points in the opening quarter. *AP*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2007

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

B·1

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **P6.5B in VAT collection** went to social services, infra projects /B3

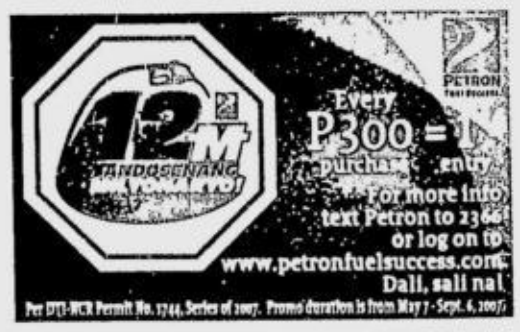
■ **MWC to pay P1B** in income tax /B5

Website: www.inquirer.net/business

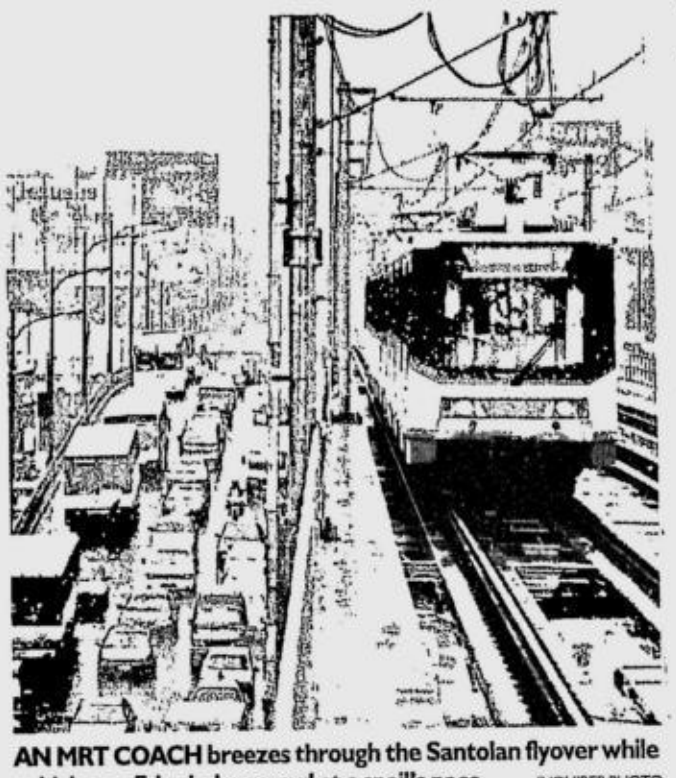
BUSINESS

Editor **Raul O. Marcelo** • *Assistant Editor* **Corrie S. Narisma**

Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) **E-mail:** business@inquirer.com.ph



Gov't buys out MRTC for $865M



AN MRT COACH breezes through the Santolan flyover while vehicles on Edsa below crawl at a snail's pace. INQUIRER PHOTO

Deal translates to $380M in savings

By Doris C. Dumlao and Riza T. Olchondra

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ENTERED INTO a fresh $865-million deal to take over Metro Railway Transit 3's build-lease-transfer contract to trim expenses of the key mass transport system.

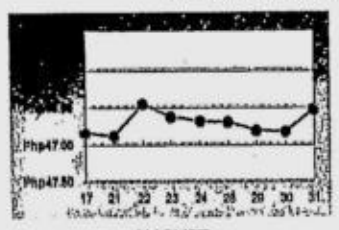
Finance Secretary Margarito Teves yesterday said that the buyout of the MRT 3 contract from the private consortium operating the utility would result in hefty savings for the government amounting to $380 million.

Under a BLT contract in 2000, private consortium Metro Rail Transit Corp. built the rail system for the Metro Rail Transit Authority (MRTA), a unit of the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC), in return for monthly rental and maintenance fees until 2025.

The government decided to take over MRT 3 operations to save on costs, especially now that it could bor-

GOV'T/ B2

INDICATORS
CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱46.55 = $1

As of 5 p.m., Aug. 31, 2007

Shares close 1.35% higher

SHARE PRICES YESTERDAY CLOSED 1.35 PERCENT HIGHER, extending gains on the back of better-than-expected economic growth data for the three months to June, dealers said. However, the light volumes mirrored prevailing caution across Asian markets ahead of Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke's speech late yesterday at the central bank's

SHARES/ B2

BSP sees '07 inflation hitting high end of forecast range

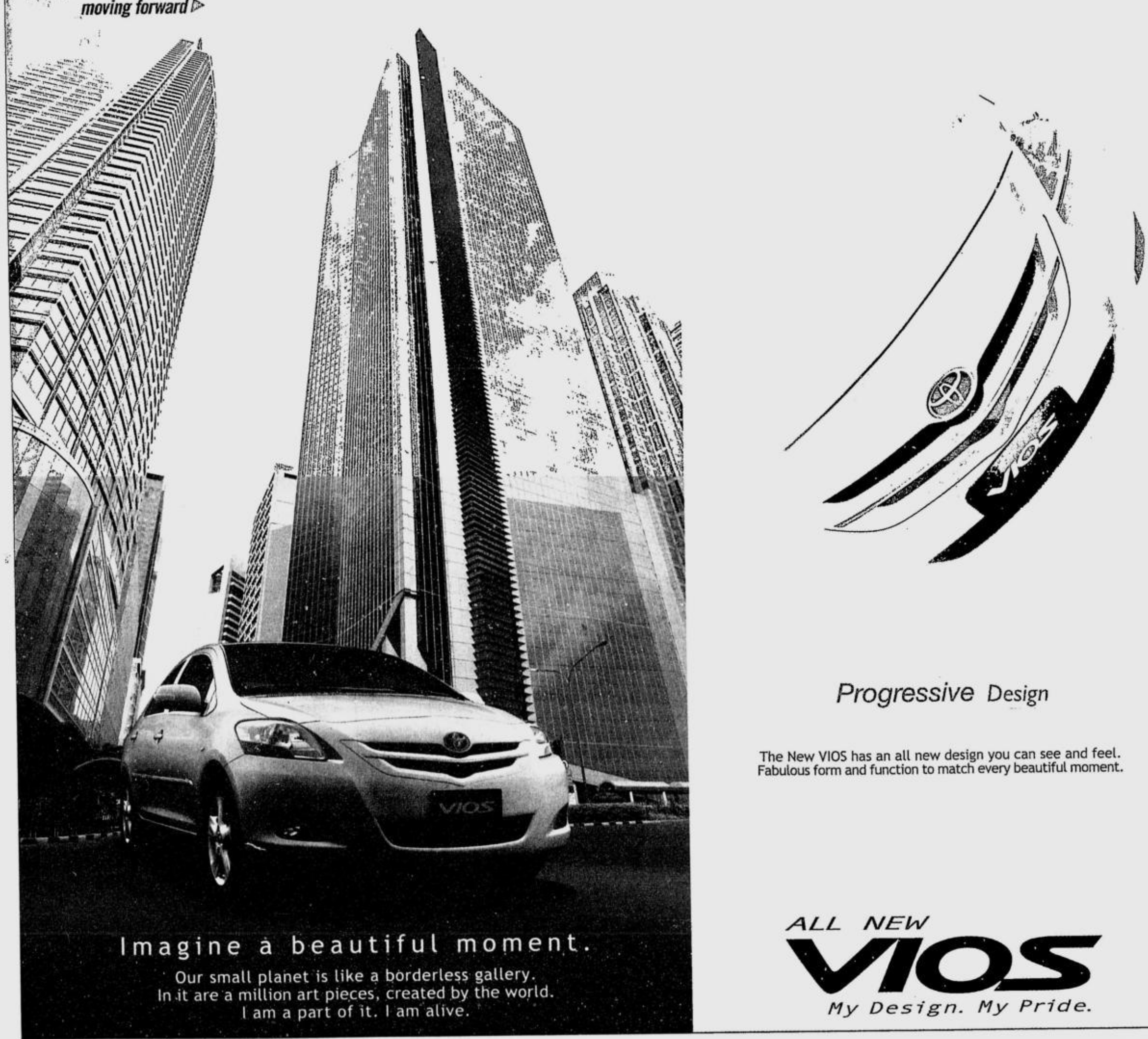
THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPinas sees the country's annual inflation this year averaging closer to 3.1 percent—or the high end of its forecast range—partly due to the impact of a prolonged dry spell on farm output.

High oil prices and the end of base effects that tempered price increases in earlier months are also seen to exert pressures the rest of the year, BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo told reporters.

"But [the rate] will stay within that inflation forecast of 2.6-3.1 percent," Guinigundo added.

He said that robust domestic demand, which resulted in a higher-than-expected growth in economic output in the first half, as well as the P12 minimum daily wage increase approved by the government, would not

BSP/ B2



Villa Verde East a complete canvas of function & world-class taste. The high of living on the hills of Antipolo is blended with convenience & luxury of a first class community.

Call (02) 635-4946
Fax No.: (02) 635-4151
Located at Unit 708- West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
www.orchardproperty.com.ph

Exclusive Marketing Network
ORCHARD PROPERTY MARKETING CORPORATION

Landco swings to profit

Property firm bracing for US subprime fallout

By Daxim L. Lucas

PROPERTY DEVELOPER Landco Pacific Corp. yesterday reported a sharp turnaround in its earnings for the first half due to higher sales and a change in its income recognition system.

At the same time, the real estate unit of Metro Pacific Investments Corp. revealed that it was bracing itself for a possible fallout from the credit squeeze in the United States, from where a significant number of its clients are located.

In a press briefing, Landco chief operating officer Francis Ceballos said the company's net income hit P109 million as of June 2007. This marks a significant improvement from the P129-million restated net loss reported by the firm in the same period last year.

He said this was due partly to the company's shift to a percentage of completion income recognition system for the current fiscal year.

During the first half, the company reported sales of P1.01 billion, marking a 267-percent improvement over the P382 million reported for the first semester of 2006.

Ceballos said he was expecting the company to continue its solid performance in the second half of the year, as the country's strong economic growth in the first half boosts confidence in the property market.

He said, however, that Landco was also keeping an eye on the US subprime credit crisis, especially on the effect it would have on liquidity in the world's largest economy.

"There are very real 'cautions,'" he said during the briefing. "There are very real red flags we can't ignore."

The Landco official noted that a significant number of its buyers are US-based expatriate Filipinos who borrow from US banks to finance their property acquisitions locally.

"A good deal of our buyers are Fil-Americans, so anything the could happen [in the US] could affect us," he said.

As much as 60 percent of Landco's sales for its township projects are made to overseas Filipinos or local buyers funded by foreign benefactors. Of this amount, Ceballos said that as much as 40 percent are sales from the US mainland.

Landco is also closely monitoring the government's promise to focus on infrastructure spending, since facilitating travel to provincial areas surrounding Metro Manila—where many of Landco's projects are located—would make it easier for the company to sell its properties.

Aboitiz transport unit buys ferry firm

By Riza T. Olchondra

ABOITIZ TRANSPORT SYSTEM CORP. said it had acquired Supercat Fast Ferry Corp. for P13.7 million.

Accuria, which owns 100 percent of Supercat, is an affiliate of ATS. Both Accuria and ATS are owned by Aboitiz Equity Ventures at 49.5 percent and 77 percent, respectively.

ATS corporate secretary Lilian Cariaso said in a letter to the Philippine Stock Exchange that the company's board had approved the acquisition.

"The acquisition forms part of the company's overall strategy of integrating all the Aboitiz interest in the transport and logistics industry under ATS," Cariaso said.

ATS also said it would pay a cash dividend of P0.30 per share on Sept. 28 to stockholders on record as of Sept. 12.

The company is set to gain a windfall of P243 million from the sale of its SuperFerry 15 to Heung-A Shipping Co. Ltd. for P789 million.

ATS said that to enhance shareholder value, it sold two other vessels early this year and liquidated P1.7 billion in debt.

"The company has also been rationalizing cost structures and increasing the earning capacity of all its assets. ATS has been converting unused passage capacity to RoRo capacity. To date, a total of three SuperFerries have been converted.

ATS posted P366.6 million in net income after tax for the first half of 2007, a 101-percent increase from year-ago level.

BSP sees '07 inflation ...

From page B1

drive up inflation.

The domestic economy hit a 20-year high growth of 7.5 percent in the second quarter, even accelerating from the 6.9-percent growth posted in the first quarter.

"You had a situation in the second quarter of continuing slowdown in inflation and a big surge in output, so if you consider that, the absorptive capacity of the economy for higher liquidity is there," Guinigundo said.

But that does not mean the BSP is willing to infuse additional liquidity by cutting its benchmark overnight borrowing rate. Guinigundo said the BSP would stick to its commitment to meet the inflation target range of 4-5 percent for this year.

"I'd rather miss the (inflation) targets on the lower side than on the other side," Guinigundo said. The inflation target of 4-5 percent for this year was set over a year ago. But according to the BSP's latest assessment, inflation is expected to reach a lower range of 2.6-3.1 percent.

"If we ease monetary policy, we will be injecting liquidity into the system and you may be abetting financial market turbulence," Guinigundo said.

The problems in the US subprime housing sector, he noted, all started with the infusion of excess liquidity in 2001, after the dotcom bubble—or the collapse of high-tech stocks—in the world's largest economy.

"When the US Fed funds rate was eased to only almost 1 percent, banks became risk lovers, invested in sub-Saharan Africa ... [and] Eastern Europe," Guinigundo said. "That's where the subrime sector came in. They were willing to invest in structured products where the underlying products include lending to subprime borrowers."

High delinquency among US subprime borrowers—or those who are eligible to borrow only at high rates due to bad credit track record or lack of creditworthiness proof—recently caused a credit crunch in the United States that created ripples across global markets due to losses sustained by big financial institutions that invested in structured products.

Doris C. Dumlao

Gov't buys out MRTC for $865M

From page B1

row cheaper money as its overall fiscal condition has improved.

Otherwise, the government would have to continue with its monthly obligation of shelling out $3.3 million in equity payment and $1.67 million for maintenance fees to Japanese operator Tespi Corp., a subcontractor of Sumitomo Corp.

The government courses the payments through MRTC.

MRTC is a private consortium led by Fil-Estate Corp. Fil-Estate chair Robert John Sobrepeña.

"We signed the document last night (Thursday)," Teves said at the sidelines of a Land Bank of the Philippines awarding ceremony for countryside lenders yesterday. "It's an all-in package of $865 million."

The agreement was signed by Teves and Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza representing the government, and businessman Alfredo Ramos on behalf of the private MRT 3 consortium.

Asked how the government would raise the $865 million to settle the MRT 3 deal, the finance chief said various options were under study.

"It can be a combination of NG (national government) and NDC (National Development Co.) borrowing, or tapping international sources," Teves said. "We're still looking at the market to find the best way of handling this."

MRTA general manager Roberto Lastimoso said in an earlier interview that the government has been in default of payments. The MRTA has not paid rental fees starting April 2006 and maintenance fees from September 2006.

Lastimoso said the monthly earnings of the MRT were not enough to cover the fees.

He said part of the problem is that the government is subsidizing the MRT-3 fare at about P40 per passenger. The rail system which runs through Edsa, services about 420,000 to 430,000 passengers a day.

Shares close 1.35% higher

From page B1

annual conference in Wyoming.

The composite index added 44.95 points to 3,365.29, just off the day's high of 3,365.46.

The all-share index finished up 35.62 points at 2,145.62.

There were 84 gainers and 23 losers, while 47 stocks were unchanged.

Volume amounted to 2 billion shares worth P3.9 billion ($83.4 million).

"The stronger-than-expected GDP growth in the second quarter brightens the outlook for the whole year," said Rommel Macapagal of Westlink Global Equities. We hope this factor will eventually help us to decouple from the US market."

Index leader Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. rose P5, or 0.2 percent, to P2,655.

Bargain hunters chased stocks of conglomerates, with Ayala Corp. up P15 at P492.50. SM Investments Corp. advanced P15, to P370.

Manila Electric Co.'s (Meralco) A-shares, which only Filipinos can trade, rose P3, to P103. Its B-shares, which have no ownership restriction, also gained P3, to settle at P104.

San Miguel Corp. A shares were unchanged at P63.50 while its B shares gained P1.50 to P68.50.

AFP

CURRENCIES

August 31, 2007 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.731154	1.000000	46.9040
Japan	Yen	0.006292	0.008606	0.4037
United Kingdom	Pound	1.475104	2.017500	94.6288
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.093697	0.128149	6.0107
Switzerland	Franc	0.609651	0.833820	39.1095
Canada	Dollar	0.690355	0.944198	44.2867
Singapore	Dollar	0.480991	0.657851	30.8558
Australia	Dollar	0.597788	0.817595	38.3485
Bahrain	Dinar*	1.939607	2.652801	124.4270
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.194948	0.266631	12.5061
Brunei	Dollar	0.479414	0.655695	30.7547
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000078	0.000106	0.0050
Thailand	Baht	0.022497	0.030769	1.4432
UAE	Dirham	0.199073	0.272272	12.7706
EU	Euro	1.000000	1.367700	64.1506
Korea	Won	0.000776	0.001062	0.0498
China	Yuan**	0.096858	0.132473	6.2135
Denmark	Kroner	0.134293	0.183672	8.6150
India	Rupee	0.017855	0.024420	1.1454
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.208782	0.285551	13.3935
New Zealand	Dollar	0.513271	0.702001	32.9267
Sweden	Kroner	0.106788	0.146054	6.8505
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.022120	0.030253	1.4190

Source: Reuters' forex closing prices as of NY time—Aug. 30, 2007
* Various banks in Bahrain as quoted in Reuters' Screen. ** Asian time closing rate as of Aug. 30, 2007

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of August 31, 2007)

52-WEEK HIGH	52-WEEK LOW	SEC NAME	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
		BANKS					
17.5	5.4	Asiatrust Development Bank Inc	9.2	9.7	9.2	9.7	61,000
73	36	Banco de Oro-EPCI Inc.	56.5	57	56	56.5	1,276,000
73.5	52.5	Bank of the Philippine Islands	60	60.5	60	60.5	2,823,800
935	630	China Banking Corp.	820	820	815	820	8,870
23.5	18.5	Citystate Savings Bank	23	23	23	23	600
0.63	0.36	Export and Industry Bank, Inc	0.41	0.41	0.4	0.4	530,000
75.5	37	Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co.	55	56.5	55	55	4,236,700
65.5	33	Philippine National Bank	46.5	49	46.5	48	934,600
39.57	14.57	Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.	24.5	24.75	24.5	24.5	1,473,800
90	49	Security Bank Corp.	71.5	73.5	71.5	72	285,700
66	42.53	Union Bank of the Philippines	55	55	54	54	2,200
		OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS					
5.6	1.76	ATR KimEng Financial Corp.	3.8	3.85	3.55	3.8	137,000
2.14	0.6	Bankard Inc.	2.12	2.14	2.08	2.14	10,843,000
16.25	2.22	CitisecOnline.com Inc.	10.5	11	10.5	11	461,200
1.6	0.4	First Abacus Financial Holdings Corp.	0.86	0.99	0.82	0.99	730,000
1,730.00	1,555.00	Manulife Financial Corp.	1,730.00	1,730.00	1,730.00	1,730.00	400
5	2.95	National Reinsurance Corp. of the Phils.	3.25	3.45	3.25	3.35	8,346,000
3.1	1	PCI Leasing and Finance Inc.	1.84	1.84	1.8	1.8	1,234,000
1,005.00	220	The Philippine Stock Exchange, Inc	750	760	720	760	80,400
2,250.00	1,945.00	Sun Life Financial Inc.	2,220.00	2,235.00	2,220.00	2,235.00	860
1.94	1.3	iVantage Corp	1.46	1.5	1.46	1.5	660,000
		ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER					
6.2	3.8	Aboitiz Power Corp.	5.1	5.4	5.1	5.4	7,458,000
0.57	0.23	East Asia Power Resources Corp.	0.27	0.27	0.26	0.27	1,350,000
70	44.5	First Gen Corp.	64.5	65	64	64.5	416,900
92	42	First Phil. Holdings Corp.	79.5	79.5	78	79.5	921,000
15	8.8	Manila Water Co. Inc.	14.5	14.5	14	14.5	2,470,100
116	16.5	Manila Electric Co. "A"	100	103	99	103	730,500
118	26.5	Manila Electric Co. "B"	99	104	99	104	1,936,870
7	4.1	PNOC Energy Development Corp.	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.5	11,929,000
6.5	3.75	Petron Corp.	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.7	6,555,000
14.75	6.7	Phoenix Petroleum Philippines Inc.	7.8	7.8	7.3	7.5	269,000
1.9	0.92	Trans-Asia Oil and Energy Dev't Corp.	1.18	1.22	1.18	1.22	764,000
		FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO					
6.3	2.95	Alaska Milk Corp.	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	1,495,000
2.95	1.86	Alliance Tuna International Inc.	2	2.04	1.96	1.98	470,000
28.5	19.5	Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	24	24	24	24	46,500
61	32	Jollibee Foods Corp.	54	54.5	52.5	54.5	1,557,300
9	4.7	Pancake House Inc.	9	9	8.8	8.8	45,000
1.96	0.78	RFM Corp.	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.66	1,206,000
3.9	2.06	Roxas Holdings	2.24	2.26	2.24	2.24	433,000
80	59	San Miguel Corp. "A"	63.5	64	63.5	63.5	475,300
88	60	San Miguel Corp. "B"	67	68.5	67	68.5	691,200
0.66	0.22	Swift Foods Inc.	0.51	0.52	0.51	0.52	20,000
22	15.25	Universal Robina Corp.	16.5	16.5	16.25	16.25	1,174,700
0.55	0.205	Vitarich Corp.	0.36	0.38	0.36	0.38	360,000
		CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES					
6.1	1.59	EEI Corp.	4.7	4.7	4.55	4.7	1,173,000
9.2	4.7	Holcim Philippines Inc.	8	8.2	7.9	8	3,469,000
7	1.28	Republic Cement Corp.	4.15	4.2	4.05	4.1	183,000
2	0.27	Southeast Asia Cement Holdings Inc.	1.24	1.34	1.24	1.26	66,119,000
		CHEMICALS					
6.3	3.1	Chemrez Technologies Inc.	4.25	4.3	4.2	4.25	1,123,000
		DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS					
0.75	0.1	Picop Resources Inc	0.36	0.37	0.35	0.36	17,080,000
		HOLDING FIRMS					
0.17	0.025	AJO.net Holdings Inc.	0.085	0.0875	0.085	0.0875	14,400,000
1.28	0.21	APC Group Inc.	0.59	0.63	0.59	0.62	13,910,000
3.6	1.4	ATN Holdings Inc. "A"	3.1	3.25	3.1	3.25	1,318,000
3.7	1.48	ATN Holdings Inc. "B"	3.35	3.4	3.35	3.35	463,000
0.018	0.007	Abacus Cons. Res. and Hold'gs Inc. "A"	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	0.0095	41,000,000
9.7	4.85	Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc.	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.5	3,544,000
0.021	0.0075	Alcorn Gold Resources Corp.	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	175,500,000
7.3	3.5	Alliance Global Group Inc.	5.1	5.6	5.1	5.6	36,423,000
2.9	0.89	Anglo-Philippine Holdings Corp.	2	2.2	1.98	2.2	5,761,000
590	360.42	Ayala Corp.	477.5	497.5	475	492.5	333,160
14.5	7.04	Bacnotan Consolidated Industries Inc.	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	20,000
5.8	1.08	Benpres Holdings Corp.	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.4	21,562,000
10.25	3.25	DMCI Holdings Inc.	8.2	8.3	8.1	8.3	476,000
6.9	1.02	Eton Properties Philippines Inc.	4	4.45	4	4.2	336,000
8	2.55	Filinvest Development Corp.	5.6	5.9	5.6	5.9	1,835,000
3.55	1.16	House of Investments Inc.	1.84	1.94	1.84	1.86	1,793,000
14.5	5.7	JG Summit Holdings Inc.	9.9	9.9	9.7	9.8	73,000
5.9	0.61	Jolliville Holdings Corp.	1.72	1.76	1.7	1.7	266,000
11.5	0.98	Multitech Investments Corp.	4.85	5	4.75	4.9	5,718,000
8.2	2.8	PAL Holdings Inc.	6.1	7	6.1	6.8	946,000
1.54	0.78	Prime Media Holdings Inc.	0.85	0.94	0.85	0.94	190,000
0.75	0.17	Prime Orion Philippines Inc.	0.39	0.43	0.39	0.43	4,790,000
2.1	1.2	Republic Glass Holdings Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	176,000
452.5	208.11	SM Investments Corp.	352.5	377.5	352.5	370	104,570
0.73	0.125	Sinophil Corp.	0.33	0.36	0.33	0.34	12,990,000
1.6	0.88	South China Resources Inc.	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	350,000
23	1	TKC Steel Corp.	19	19.25	19	19.25	7,800
0.75	0.1	Wellex Industries Inc.	0.33	0.35	0.33	0.33	18,540,000
		PROPERTY					
2.34	0.78	A Brown Co. Inc.	1.3	1.44	1.3	1.44	1,512,000
8.9	5	Anchor Land Holdings, Inc	6.9	7	6.8	7	130,000
1.06	0.32	Araneta Properties Inc.	0.7	0.72	0.7	0.72	290,000
19.25	11.04	Ayala Land Inc.	14	14.5	14	14.5	18,055,500
1.88	0.99	Belle Corp.	1.14	1.16	1.14	1.16	8,463,000
4.7	2.26	Cebu Holdings Inc.	3.8	3.9	3.75	3.9	143,000
0.86	0.29	Crown Equities Inc.	0.64	0.64	0.61	0.61	720,000
0.83	0.24	Cyber Bay Corp.	0.43	0.47	0.43	0.47	1,130,000
0.99	0.48	Empire East Land Holdings Inc.	0.72	0.72	0.7	0.7	6,950,000
0.47	0.048	Ever Golesco Resources and Hold'gs Inc.	0.225	0.23	0.225	0.23	10,730,000
1.48	0.43	Fil-Estate Land Inc.	1.2	1.24	1.18	1.2	22,270,000
2.44	1.07	Filinvest Land Inc.	1.58	1.58	1.52	1.58	31,289,000
2.9	0.85	Keppel Philippines Properties Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1,000
1.12	0.24	MRC Allied Industries Inc.	0.59	0.6	0.58	0.6	10,960,000
4.4	1.56	Megaworld Corp.	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.5	12,174,000
6.4	1.5	Metro Pacific Investments Corp.	4.1	4.1	3.8	4	45,000
0.7	0.125	Phil. Estates Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.33	0.34	1,000,000
0.87	0.32	Philippine Realty and Holdings Corp.	0.43	0.45	0.43	0.44	1,350,000
9.2	1.1	Polar Property Holdings Corp.	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	10,000
23	12.5	Robinson Land Corp.	17.25	18	17.25	18	723,800
5.9	1.37	SM Development Corp.	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	1,871,000
13.5	6.24	SM Prime Holdings Inc.	11.75	12.25	11.75	12	13,191,000
3.25	0.82	Shang Properties Inc.	2.7	2.8	2.65	2.7	420,000
1.34	0.46	Suntrust Home Developers Inc.	0.58	0.63	0.57	0.63	6,380,000
0.49	0.08	Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.27	2,180,000
7.5	3.65	Vista Land and Lifescapes Inc	5	5	4.95	5	21,372,000
		MEDIA					
38.5	16	ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	31	32	30	32	148,500
11.75	8.7	GMA Network Inc	10	10.25	9.9	10	1,253,000
		TELECOMMUNICATIONS					
2.12	1.1	Digital Telecommunications Phils. Inc.	1.26	1.26	1.24	1.24	3,134,000
1,445.00	975	Globe Telecom Inc.	1,330.00	1,380.00	1,330.00	1,375.00	96,940
2,820.00	1,900.00	Phil. Long Distance Telephone Co.	2,650.00	2,660.00	2,650.00	2,655.00	123,160
7.9	3.75	Pilipino Telephone Corp.	6.8	7.1	6.8	7.1	6,193,000
		INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY					
0.39	0.17	Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	1,000,000
12	2	Diversified Financial Network Inc.	9.8	9.9	9.7	9.7	10,000
11.5	2	IPVG Corp.	8.7	9.1	8.7	9.1	1,997,000
0.065	0.027	ISM Communications Corp.	0.031	0.031	0.03	0.03	11,000,000
2.9	1.6	Ionics Inc.	1.66	1.66	1.66	1.66	403,000
0.32	0.043	Island Information and Technology Inc.	0.185	0.19	0.18	0.185	47,500,000
0.0725	0.027	PhilWeb.Com Inc.	0.049	0.05	0.048	0.05	43,700,000
5.8	1	Transpacific Broadband Group Int'l Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.46	2.5	535,000
		TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
1.92	1.14	Aboitiz Transport System Corp.	1.78	1.9	1.78	1.9	1,576,000
6.8	3.05	Asian Terminals Inc.	4	4	4	4	173,000
34.5	14.75	Int'l Container Terminal Services Inc.	31	33	31	32.5	5,892,800
2.16	0.93	Keppel Philippines Marine Inc.	1.9	1.96	1.9	1.96	80,000
		HOTEL & LEISURE					
4.25	1.66	Leisure and Resorts World Corp.	2.9	2.95	2.8	2.95	223,000
0.98	0.3	Premiere Entertainment Productions Inc.	0.51	0.54	0.51	0.53	1,870,000
1.2	0.42	Waterfront Philippines Inc	0.79	0.8	0.78	0.79	2,480,000
		EDUCATION					
950	650	Far Eastern University Inc.	870	870	870	870	60
3.7	2.6	iPeople Inc	2.65	2.65	2.6	2.6	200,000
		DIVERSIFIED SERVICES					
6	1.9	Macroasia Corp.	4.3	4.45	4.3	4.3	875,000
17.25	9.8	Pacific Online Systems Corp.	11.75	12	11.75	12	392,500
30	9.9	Paxys Inc	15	15	14.5	14.75	875,600
		MINING					
0.018	0.0085	Abra Mining and Industrial Corp.	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	16,000,000
7.6	3.6	Apex Mining Co. Inc. "A"	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	10,000
21.25	7.7	Atlas Cons. Mining and Dev't Corp.	13	14	13	14	2,438,200
3.1	0.33	GEOGRACE Resources Philippines Inc.	1.48	1.56	1.46	1.56	77,295,000
0.35	0.18	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. "A"	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	21,510,000
0.42	0.22	Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. "B"	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.26	6,000,000
0.038	0.017	Manila Mining Corp. "A"	0.021	0.021	0.02	0.021	22,600,000
0.041	0.019	Manila Mining Corp. "B"	0.023	0.024	0.023	0.024	17,300,000
30	1.2	NIHAO Minerals Resources Int'l Inc.	11.25	11.5	10.75	11.25	1,635,300
0.021	0.0079	Omico Corp.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	82,600,000
6.4	3.15	Philex Mining Corp.	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.7	8,643,000
43	14.75	Semirara Mining Corp.	30.5	30.5	30.5	30.5	25,000
1.36	0.39	United Paragon Mining Corp.	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	10,000
1.8	0.56	Vulcan Industrial and Mining Corp.	1.22	1.22	1.18	1.2	5,730,000
		OIL					
0.58	0.25	Basic Petroleum Corp.	0.35	0.35	0.34	0.34	2,950,000
0.025	0.0095	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. "A"	0.02	0.021	0.02	0.021	247,800,000
0.027	0.01	Oriental Pet. and Minerals Corp. "B"	0.021	0.023	0.021	0.023	102,300,000
12.25	9	Petroenergy Resources Corp.	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	7,000
0.028	0.0089	The Philodrill Corp.	0.02	0.022	0.02	0.022	577,200,000

AVERAGES			VOLUME	
Financial	866.02 UP	2.52	34,126,130	709,969,205.00
Industrial	4,768.36 UP	63.34	131,851,370	888,623,770.00
Holding Firms	1,887.13 UP	44.46	362,817,730	610,587,770.00
Property	1,538.62 UP	28.78	173,370,300	700,213,620.00
Service	1,599.26 UP	16.04	131,681,560	774,848,490.00
Mining & Oil	5,674.49 UP	170.00	1,192,053,500	254,175,070.00
All Shares Index	2,145.62 UP	35.62		
PSEI	3,365.29 UP	44.95		
		GRAND TOTALS	2,025,900,590	3,938,417,925.00

COMPILED BY SCHATZI QUODALA, INQUIRER RESEARCH

SOURCE: TECHNISTOCK, PSE

P6.5B in VAT collection went to social services, infra projects

Share to increase to 50% in 2010

By Michelle V. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE SAID P6.5 billion was added to the national budget for social services and infrastructure in the first quarter, as it generated additional revenue from the implementation of the Value-Added Tax Reform law.

The VAT law provides for the allocation this year of 35 percent of the additional revenue arising from the implementation of the reformed VAT for social services and infrastructure. The balance should be used for the reduction of the budget deficit.

Last year, 30 percent of the additional VAT revenue went to social services and infrastructure. The share of infrastructure and social services in the VAT proceeds will increase to 40 percent next year, 45 percent in 2009 and to 50 percent in 2010.

"We are pleased to report that our people are now benefiting from the taxes they pay through these projects, such as housing and food, which are supported by the additional revenue from VAT," Finance Secretary Margarito Teves said in a statement.

Teves said that of the amount that went to social services and infrastructure, resettlement programs got the biggest share of P1.6 billion. Irrigation projects got P1.5 billion while school feeding and hunger mitigation programs received P1.4 billion. The balance went to road development.

The resettlement projects benefited residents displaced due to the North and South Rail linkage project, and the informal settlers affected by the enhancement of the North-Luzon Expressway.

Under the government's hunger mitigation program, the Department of Education (DepEd) received the biggest funding of P1 billion. The Department of Social Welfare and Development got P269 million to fund its milk and breast-feeding program for pre-school children.

The DOF said the irrigation projects funded by VAT included the restoration of 24,498 hectares of farm land and the rehabilitation of 2,000 hectares.

Road development projects included the arterial road links development project, which got P631.4 million, and the Metro Manila Urban Transport Integrated Project, which received P540.5 million.

President Macapagal-Arroyo earlier ordered the regular monitoring and reporting of the VAT proceeds disbursement.

The law used to be an unpopular bill that elicited opposition from consumer groups and some legislators. The Arroyo administration, however, insisted on the bill's enactment into law as it vowed to use its proceeds to trim the deficit and boost spending for social services and infrastructure.

AGRICULTURE Secretary Arthur C. Yap (left) and Magsaysay Mayor Jess Lumanog inspect the Magsaysay Rice (MAGRice), which is organically produced by the Bala-kapanulo communal irrigators association in Magsaysay, Davao del Sur.

Gas issues to be discussed in Paris meet

THE BIANNUAL GAS CONFERENCE organized by the Association Francaise du Gaz (AFG) will be held at the Palais des Congres in Paris, France, on Sept. 11-13, 2007.

The event is a venue for all stakeholders from gas producers, suppliers and various consumers to share their experiences, knowledge and assessment of the industry and where it is headed.

The first day, Sept. 11, will be devoted to gas applications and market issues with a roundtable discussion on market opening and consumer benefits.

The second day, Sept. 12, will look at the strategies emerging in the gas sector as well as sustainable development issues. The main topics will be on security of supply, gas R&D and European policy.

The last day will focus on gas infrastructure development.

This year's Gas Conference also coincides with the European Forum Gas, also organized by AFG. The EFG will be on Sept. 12-13, 2007 also at the Palais des Congres.

SCTEx's Clark-Tarlac leg now 95% complete

THE BASES CONVERSION Development Authority said the Clark-Tarlac segment of the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway or SCTEx was 95 percent complete.

Called Package 2 , the 43.27-kilometer roadway is now undergoing quality control scrutiny to make sure that the contractor delivers the roadway according to world-class standards.

BCDA president and CEO Narciso L. Abaya said a 95-percent project completion "constitutes substantial compliance to the contract" by the Package 2 contractor, Hazama-Taisei-Nippon Steel Joint Venture (HTNJV).

SCTEx project managers are now engaged in "punchlisting," a technical term for conducting a quality checklist for every 20-meter sub-segment covering the entire 43.27-kilometer expressway. "If the findings are not up to the specifications, BCDA will call the attention of the contractor and require it to conform to the approved technical specifications of the project," Abaya said.

He said this final quality control process on completed works had to be done before the project would be accepted.

"We are making sure that our country is getting that best from our contractors, and nobody is shortchanged," Abaya stressed.

DOE eyes awarding of Mindoro service contract

By Abigail L. Ho

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY will soon start talks with South China Resources Inc. and Pitkin Petroleum Ltd. for the possible award of a service contract for oil and gas exploration in offshore Mindoro.

In a letter to Pitkin Petroleum country manager Christopher Jackson, Energy Undersecretary Guillermo Balce said the South China-Pitkin proposal was chosen for negotiation following the evaluation of two proposals submitted for the petroleum service contract in Area 4 under the Philippine Energy Contracting Round.

Area 4 under the DOE's PECR-3 covers about 1.16 million hectares in the Cuyo/Mindoro/East Palawan region.

In an earlier interview, Balce said the DOE expected at least $180 million in new investments from entities that would be awarded contracts under the PECR-3, which should be awarded by September.

Once awarded, he said the winning bidders were expected to infuse at least $20 million in each of the oil and gas blocks.

"That will be for seven years. With nine areas to be awarded, we'll generate around $180 million, and that's just the minimum," he said.

At the close of the PECR-3 last May, more than 20 local and foreign firms expressed interest in developing coal, geothermal and petroleum areas that were offered for exploration and development.

For petroleum exploration, the DOE identified nine areas spanning 71,357.3 square kilometers for development, including Cagayan, Central Luzon, two blocks in Mindoro-Cuyo, three blocks in East Palawan, Visayan Basin, and Agusan-Davao.

"For he has freed my soul from death; my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling I shall walk before the Lord in the lands of the living." – **Psalm 116:8-9**

Our Beloved

VALENTINA "Tinay" R. PROTACIO

has gone back to the Father on Wednesday, August 29, 2007 at the age of 97.

She will be dearly missed by her surviving sister, **IDANG**; nephews, nieces, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Likewise, she has joined brother **PEDRO** (†); sisters **YAYANG TORRES** (†), **CADJIE** (†), **RUFINA** (†), and **IRENEA LAUREL** (†), in the life hereafter.

Her mortal remains lie in state at the family residence at 2277 Luna St., Pasay City. Interment will be at the Pasay Municipal Cemetery (Sgt. Mariano) on Tuesday, September 4, 2007, after the 9 a.m. service at the Iglesia ng Diyos kay Kristo Hesus Chapel, Aurora Blvd. (formerly Tramo), Pasay City.

We lovingly remember our beloved Mama on her

FORTY EIGHTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Eufemia Cruz Ventanilla

a loving mother

of Cabanatuan City and Calumpit, Bulacan who died on September 2, 1959

Holy Masses will be offered tomorrow at the following churches:

1.	**Saint Basil Church**, *Brecksville, Ohio*	9:00 AM
2.	**Saint Nicholas Tolentine Cathedral**, *Cabanatuan City*	All Masses
3.	**Our Lady of Fatima Parish**, *Philamlife Homes, Las Piñas, Metro Manila*	All Masses
4.	**Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary**, *Multinational Village, Parañaque, Metro Manila*	All Masses
5.	**Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary**, *Rosario Complex, San Pedro, Laguna*	All Masses
6.	**Sto. Niño de Cebu Parish**, *Biñan, Laguna*	All Masses
7.	**Parish of the Holy Sacrifice**, *U.P. Campus, Diliman, Quezon City*	All Masses
8.	**Sta. Maria Della Strada Parish**, *Katipunan Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City*	All Masses
9.	**St. James the Great**, *Alabang Village, Muntinlupa*	All Masses
10.	**St. Jerome Emiliani and Sta. Susana Parish** *Ayala Alabang Village*	All Masses
11.	**Mary Help of Christians Parish**, *Better Living Subdivision, Parañaque*	All Masses
12.	**Immaculate Conception Parish**, *Concepcion, Marikina City*	6:00 AM

Her surviving children **Dra. Gloria V. Apolonio, Atty. Oscar C. Ventanilla Jr.**, and **Mrs. Rosalinda V. Escaño**, sons and daughters-in-law, and grandchildren, request relatives, friends, and pious readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of her soul.

"Upon those who love, there will be a thousand summers"

JOSEPHINE SAMSON SIMPAO

in peace and grace joined our Lord Father on August 30, 2007 at the age of 53.

Her bereaved family, husband **Atty. Reynaldo R. Simpao**; children **Miguel Lorenzo**, **Pauline Anne**, **Amelyn** and **Timothy**; parents **Nemesio S. Samson** (†) and **Amelia V. Samson**; brothers and sisters-in-law, **Anthony** and **Maria**, **Jonathan** and **Dra. Mila**; relatives and friends join in prayer for her eternal rest in heaven.

Her remains lie in state at St. Paul of the Cross Parish, SSS Village, Marikina City.

Interment will be announced later.

ALFREDO E. SANGALANG

passed away in the Grace of the Lord on August 30, 2007 at the age of 78.

His bereaved wife **Lourdes Olmedo**; children **Cynthia** and **Ramon Karingal**; **Ramon** and **Agnes**; **Clara** and **Vic Olizon**; **Raul**; **Carina** and **Pics Colinares**; **Renato** and **Candy**; and grandchildren; brothers and sisters, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to join them in praying for his eternal happiness in heaven.

His cremains lie in state at the Capilla dela Virgen, Santuario de San Antonio Parish, McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City.

Inurnment will be on Sunday, September 02, 2007 after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for Though art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me. Psalm 23:4 (nrsv)

"Good Morning! Happy Birthday!" was Vic's favorite greeting to all - To him it was always a meaning of a new start and hope.

Hon. Victor "VIC" B. C. de Castro

Barangay Chairman - Incumbent
Association of Barangay Captains President - Incumbent
Philippine Councilors League
Municipality of Magallanes, Province of Sorsogon
Region V

Victor B.C. de Castro, 53, joined the Lord on Friday, August 24, 2007 in his hometown Magallanes, Sorsogon. Vic was born in Cubao on March 21, 1954, a son of Joseph and the late Dionisia. He was a resident of Pili, Magallanes, Sorsogon for the past 27 years, formerly living in Cubao, Quezon City, and attended school at Ateneo de Manila University. He served as Barangay Chairman for 10 years in Barangay Pili, Magallanes, Sorsogon.

He is survived by his wife Tessie; Children - Benedict, Christine and Joey Cervantes, Patrick, Theresa and Dhon Bello, Florence, and Brian; Grandchild - Cheska; Brothers and Sisters; and in-laws.

His remains now lie in state at the Divine Mercy Chapel, 19 Spencer St., Cubao, Quezon City up to September 4, 2007 10 P.M. Interment will be on September 6, 2007 at 1:00 P.M. at Magallanes Catholic Cemetery, Magallanes, Sorsogon.

We request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

Atty. Dennis Manas Morales

2nd Assistant City Prosecutor, Chief 5th Division, City Hall Manila

Passed away on 26 August 2007 at the age of 59.

His loving daughters, grandchildren, sisters, other relatives and friends request the readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Rose Garden Chapel, The Sanctuarium, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Cremation will be on Sunday, 2 September 2007 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon after the celebration of the Holy Mass at 3:00 p.m.

Dra. Lourdes Lopez Ysrael

of Cebu and Mauban, Quezon

has peacefully joined her Creator after a life of fulfillment and happiness on August 29, 2007 at the age of 77.

As she joins her late husband **Jorge Sr.**, her bereaved children **Johanna** and **Jorge** and daughter-in-law **Feli**; sister **Felisa** and brother-in-law **Ramon** and her grandchildren **Johan** and **Julianne**, request your prayers for the repose of her soul and everlasting happiness in the company of Jesus Christ our savior.

Her remains lie at Parish of Hearts of Jesus and Mary in West Triangle, Quezon City until September 02, 2007 and will be brought to Mauban, Quezon for the interment on September 04, 2007.

Message of Thanks

We, **Sasa**, **Louise** & **Therese**, the **Donato** and **Paez** families of

LOUIE PABLO DONATO

who peacefully joined our Lord and Mama Mary on the Feast day of Our Lady's Queenship, August 22, 2007

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincere appreciation to all of you who made God's loving presence and providence very real in our lives since the time of his illness up to his birth to eternal life.

CLASSIFIEDS

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX
& other SWISS SWATCHES
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
BEST PRICE
SPOT CASH
8341572
8316712

PAWN • BUY • SELL
ROLEX, AP
PATEK, BULGARI
CARTIER, IWC
PANERAI, OMEGA
SWISS WATCHES
GOLD & DIAMOND SPECIALISTS
sec ndo Glorietta
894-0282 • 889-7956

Notice is hereby given that the estates of Spouses Amando H. Carbonell who died on Aug. 30, 1998 and Augustina Lanting Carbonell who died on July 24, 1973 has been settled extrajudicially under deed of extrajudicial settlement last Aug. 13, 2007 under Doc. 031, Page 08 Book XVIII of the Notarial Register of Notary Public Atty Cesar M. Lao of Antipolo City Province of Rizal.
(PDI-Aug. 18, 25 & Sept. 1, 2007)

More Classified Ads

Department of Tourism	Page A10
Home Guaranty Corporation	Page A17
DOH-COBAC	Page A17
Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority	Page B5
Department of Labor-NCR	Page B5
PhilRice	Page B5

Warmth, sophistication, style at One Rockefeller Residences

WARMTH, SOPHISTICATION and style plus the prestige of having a Makati City address characterize One Rockefeller, the newest residential condominium project of Step One Property Builders' Inc., one of the country's most progressive medium-rise condominium developers today.

One Rockefeller Residences is a five-story residential condominium consisting of 20 studio units and 12 two-bedroom units. One commercial unit is situated at the ground floor. There are 14 parking slots available while an elevator is also provided for easy access going to and from the higher floors.

Located at Rockefeller Street in Makati City, residents of Sopbi's new themed development are just a few minutes away from the city's major commercial, entertainment, dining and business establishments.

According to Jacqueline S. Lim, president and CEO of Sopbi, unit owners of One Rockefeller would have an easy access to their everyday activities.

"It's very accessible to public transportation, the offices in Makati's central business district, schools as well as the shopping areas," she shares.

Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, the main route of public utility vehicles such as buses, jeepneys and taxis, is just a few steps away. It's also just several meters from the South Superhighway and the LRT 1 line. Commuting to and from the provinces and around the metropolis is indeed very convenient and faster.

De La Salle University, St. Scholastica's College, Don Bosco Makati, and AMA Academy, some of the country's most prestigious schools, are also within a short distance.

Shopping for your everyday needs? Makati City's prime commercial district, the Ayala Center, is several minutes away. The center includes several malls, shopping centers and fine dining establishments such as Glorietta and Greenbelt, as well as SM and Park Square. Take a few steps and you'll reach Makro and Cash & Carry while Walter Mart Makati, Makati Cinema Square Commercial Center and the Magallanes Commercial Center, to name a few, are also very near the area. For inquiries, call 891-3371, 891-5554, 891-5511 or 8915551.

Television and Production Exponents, Inc. (TAPE Inc.)
is in need of the following:

CAMERAMAN
1. Male
2. Not over 30 years old
3. With experience in TV Production
4. Graduate of a Reputable School

CCU MAN
1. Male
2. Not over 30 years old
3. With experience in TV Production
4. Graduate from a Reputable School and Holder of ECE License

LIGHTING DIRECTOR
1. Preferably with experience in production

HR/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
1. Graduate of BS Psychology or related course
2. With previous experience

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT/ SEGMENT PRODUCER
1. Preferably with experience in production
2. Graduate of AB Broadcast Communication or related course

Please submit or hand-carry your resumé at the address below:

Television and Production Exponent Inc. (TAPE Inc.)
79 Xavierville Subd., Xavierville Ave., Loyola Heights, Q.C.

Group urges industries to shift operations to 'off-peak' periods

By Abigail L. Ho

INDUSTRIES SEEKING TO CAP rising costs of operation should consider shifting part of their power-intensive operations to "off-peak" periods when power rates are cheaper.

Federation of Philippine Industries chair Meneleo Carlos said yesterday that by operating during off-peak periods, industries can take advantage of the time-of-use (TOU) rates of the National Power Corp. and the Manila Electric Co.

The Energy Regulatory Commission recently approved the implementation of the TOU rates, but has not yet decided when the rates will be applied.

Under Napocor's TOU scheme, customers will be provided with flexible hourly rates that are lowest during off-peak hours, or between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., and highest during peak hours, or from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sundays and holidays are also considered off-peak times.

Rates are also lower during the rainy season, or from July to December, as electricity demand usually falls during this time due to cooler temperatures.

Hydroelectric plants are also able to produce more power during these months.

Meralco also offered its own TOU scheme, with peak hours placed at between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. from Monday to Saturday and between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. during Sundays.

The remaining hours are considered off-peak hours.

According to the proposed rates of Meralco, TOU customers will be charged P6.4852 a kilowatt-hour (kWh) during peak hours and P3.0925 a kWh during off-peak hours from Monday to Saturday.

Only one rate is applied on Sundays.

From July to December, proposed peak-hour charges will go down to P6.1053 a kWh for all days of the week.

For industries and commercial entities, or any customer with an average monthly peak demand of 750 kilowatts, Meralco and Napocor have a Customer Choice Program that places the generation charge at about P4.90 a kWh, as compared with the Meralco blended (Napocor plus independent power producers) rate of P5.55 a kWh.

Napocor's TOU rates, on the other hand, range from a high of P6.83 a kWh to a low of P2.17 a kWh.

For industries operating within economic zones, rates can even go lower with Meralco's proposed ecozone rate of P3.52 a kWh, exclusive of the 77-centavo-a-kWh additional charge for fuel and foreign exchange-related recoveries.

This rate will apply to 13 industrial estates and Philippine Economic Zone Authority-accredited industrial accounts with a load factor of at least 80 percent and a demand of 1 megawatt.

MWC to pay P1B in income tax

Water distributor's tax holiday lapses

By Michelle V. Remo

WATER DISTRIBUTOR MANILA WATER Co. said it expects to pay P1 billion in income tax to the national government this year following the end of its income tax holiday last year.

In a statement, the Ayala-owned company announced that it had paid P200 million in income tax in the second quarter.

This brought Manila Water's total income tax payment for the first half to P435 million.

"Our company's performance is well ahead of target and these tax payments have been factored into our financial forecasts. We believe that contributing to national development is still a major objective of Manila Water and our tax payment today is an indication that we remain committed to this goal," Manila Water president Antonino Aquino said in the statement.

Manila Water enjoyed a tax break for five years following its registration with the Board of Investments as a pioneer industry.

Manila Water took over the water concession in the East zone of Metro Manila 10 years ago after the government privatized water distribution.

The government had awarded the water concession for the West zone to Lopez-owned Maynilad Water Services Inc., but its financial woes prompted the state to take back the concession.

Poor water distribution in Metro Manila prior to 1997, with only a few areas experiencing 24-hour water supply, prompted the government to turn over the water supply operation to the private sector.

Manila Water took over the operation of the East Zone of Metro Manila via a 25-year concession agreement.

The concession agreement also granted Manila Water exclusive rights to the use of land and facilities for the production, treatment and distribution of water, as well as the rights to operate the sewerage system.

The East Zone includes the cities of Makati, Pasig, Mandaluyong, Marikina, most parts of Quezon City, some parts of Manila, and the municipalities of San Juan, Taguig, and Pateros.

It also covers cities and municipalities in the Rizal province east of Metro Manila.

DA finds new areas for sugarcane production

By Amy R. Remo

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, through the Sugar Regulatory Administration, has identified 60,250 hectares of new sugarcane areas that can produce as much as 274 million liters of bioethanol.

"These new areas for sugarcane will produce more than enough bioethanol to meet the 2009 requirement of 255 million liters," Agriculture Secretary Arthur C. Yap said in a recent forum in Cagayan de Oro City.

"We need about 10 refineries with at least 30 million liters annual capacity to produce this volume," he added.

There are currently 38,500 hectares planted to sugarcane.

Yap said in the same forum that the expansion of sugarcane areas for bioethanol production would help improve the lives of more than 55,000 farmers dependent on sugarcane.

He noted that based on SRA studies, a total of 377,182 ha of land in the country are suitable for planting sugar.

Of this land, 17.2 percent are in Luzon; 53.3 percent in Negros; 6.9 percent in Panay Island; 4.4 percent in Eastern Visayas; and the remaining 19.1 percent in Mindanao.

Yap likewise said that the Department of Energy had reported that at least seven investors have already expressed interest in building sugar refineries to produce bioethanol.

These are reported to have a combined annual capacity of 402 million liters.

"We have enough land to meet sugar ethanol refinery requirements," Yap said. "DOE reports more than enough prospective refinery investors. What is left for us to do is plant the sugarcane."

At present, sugarcane is the most reliable feedstock for bioethanol production because farming technologies are available in the country, Yap said.

Sugarcane is an annual crop with an estimated yield of 4,550 liters of biofuel per hectare.

"Compared with other feedstock, only ethanol from sugarcane can be produced in a totally renewable and environment-friendly process by using bagasse—a sugarcane waste material—to fuel boilers that generate the required steam and electricity for the distillery," Yap said.

In compliance with Republic Act 9367 or the Biofuels Act, a minimum of 5 percent of ethanol should be pre-blended with gasoline by February 2009, with the ratio doubling to 10 percent by February 2011.

The same law requires all diesel engine fuels to be pre-blended with 1 percent coco biodiesel.

This blending ratio will double to 2 percent by February 2009.

Pangasinan top bangus producer

By Gabriel Cardinoza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

DAGUPAN CITY—PANGASINAN HAS REmained the country's top bangus (milkfish) producer, according to the five-year study of the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics.

According to the milkfish situation report posted on its website, BAS said that from 2003 to 2005, the province had consistently topped other bangus-producing provinces, such as Bulacan, Capiz, Iloilo and Negros Occidental.

It was only in 2001 and 2002 when Pangasinan's bangus harvests were second to Bulacan's and this was attributed to the massive fish kill that hit Pangasinan during those years.

From 30,782 metric tons in 2001, Pangasinan's production increased to 57,837 metric tons in 2005, supplying 20 percent of the 289,153 metric tons harvested throughout the country that year, the report said.

The top five bangus producing provinces accounted for 51 percent of the total output in 2005.

"The gain in milkfish output [in Pangasinan] was attributed to the availability of fingerlings coupled with favorable weather conditions during the year and this was beneficial to the growth of natural food," the BAS said.

The BAS also said that in 2005, the country exported 924.08 metric tons of bangus, 16.89 percent lower than the 2004 record of 1,111.82 metric tons.

The United States is the biggest market for Philippine milkfish.

"Of the total volume of milkfish exports, 43.11 percent went to the US. The United Kingdom also purchased fresh/chilled milkfish from the Philippines in 2005," the BAS said.

Milkfish was also exported to Guam, Australia, Canada, Korea and Japan.

PHILRICE PHILIPPINE RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Philippine Rice Research Institute, through the Government of the Philippines intends to apply the sum of **FIVE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED PESOS AND 00/100 ONLY (PhP 5,526,900.00)** being the approved budget for the contract for Public Bidding 07-03-012. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. The Philippine Rice Research Institute now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for **PRINTING OF TECHNOLOGY BULLETINS, FIELD GUIDES & MANUAL.** Delivery is within 10 to 15 days upon receipt of PO and an initial delivery is required on or before September 25, 2007. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act" and is restricted to Filipino citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. Interested bidders may inspect Bidding Documents and obtain further information from PhilRice located at Brgy. Maligaya, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija during office hours from 8:00 to 5:00 p.m.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on September 4 to 7, 2007 during regular office hours from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of **FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS AND 00/100 ONLY (PhP 5,500.00).** The method of payment will be in the form of cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective bidder or his authorized representative.
6. PhilRice will hold a pre-bid conference open to all interested parties on September 6, 2007; 4:00 PM at PhilRice, Boardroom, Laboratory Bldg., Maligaya, Science City of Muñoz, N.E.
7. Bids and eligibility requirements must be submitted to the BAC thru the Supply Office on or before 13th of September 2007, 3:25 PM. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of cash, Manager's Check or Cashier's Check payable to PhilRice equivalent to one (1%) percent of the ABC or Fifty Five Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Nine Pesos and 00/100 only (PhP 55,269.00). Late bids shall not be accepted.
8. Bid opening shall be on September 13, 2007, 3:30 pm at PhilRice Boardroom. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
9. PhilRice reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) HAZEL JANE M. ORGE
Chairman, Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI – September 1, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
National Capital Region
DY Int'l Bldg., 1650 San Marcelino
cor. General Malvar St., Malate, Manila

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION/S FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT/S (AEP/S)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/employers have filed with this Regional Office application/s for Alien Employment Permit/s:

Name and address of Company/Employer	Name of Foreign National	Position
KINGSOLOMON TREASURE CORP. 1727 Mabini St., Malate, Manila	Hyun Ju Kim	General Manager
ROA SYSTEMS CO. LTD. – MANILA BRANCH 19/F GT Tower Int'l., 6813 Ayala Ave., Makati City	Prashanth Kumar Mysore Indra Kumar	Technical Architect
TOP2U TECHNOLOGY PHIL., INC. 1403 Times Plaza, United Nations Ave., Ermita, Manila	Hoon Kheong Lee	Director
INTEGRATIVE CENTER FOR ALTERNATIVE DEV'T. FOUNDATION, INC. 14 Annapolis St., Northeast Greenhills, San Juan City	Gokhan Yigit	Computer Teacher
FARAHNAZ PERSIAN HOME DECOR 47 T.M. Kalaw St., Tierra Pura Homes Tandang Sora, Quezon City	Behrouz Ghodsi Nia	General Manager
COCA-COLA BOTTLERS PHILIPPINES, INC. 4/F King's Court Bldg. 2, 2129 Pasong Tamo, Makati City	Kevin Kent Krigline	Director, Product Availability
FOSTER WHEELER (PHILIPPINES) CORPORATION 7/F PDCP Bank Centre, V.A. Rufino St., Salcedo Village, Makati City	Pedram Momen	Yard Engineer Consultant
TOP2U TECHNOLOGY PHILS. INC. 1403 Times Plaza, United Nations Ave., Ermita, Manila	Yoon Shing Yow	Finance and Admin Consultant
SINOPHIL MINING AND TRADING CORPORATION Unit 22, 3/F Legaspi Tower 300, Roxas Blvd. cor. Vito Cruz, Malate, Manila	Yang Liu	Sales Manager for Operation
SINOPHIL MINING AND TRADING CORPORATION Unit 22, 3/F Legaspi Tower 300, Roxas Blvd. cor. Vito Cruz, Malate, Manila	Pengyan Zeng	Procurement Manager
DELL INTERNATIONAL SERVICES PHILIPPINES INC. 2/F 1800 E. Rodriguez Ave. Bldg., Eastwood City, Cyberpark, 188 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City	Joe Francis Jeyaraj	Process Director-OSP
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORP. The Enterprise Center, Tower 1, 6766 Ayala Ave. cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City	Christopher Thomas Rourke	Senior Vice President and Head of Marketing and Product Development
LLOYD'S REGISTER ASIA Unit N-4, 9/F Times Plaza Bldg., UN cor. Taft Ave., Ermita, Manila	Michio Nakamura	Senior Surveyor in Charge for the Philippines
HIKOTEC INC. Benz Cmpd., J. Aguilar Ave., Pamplona III, Las Pinas City	Soon Byung Lim	Marketing Manager
GONGAN INTERIOR INC. 11/F Legaspi Tower 300, Roxas Blvd., Manila	Eun Joo Choi	Sales Manager
PASCO-CERTEZA COMPUTER MAPPING CORPORATION 23/F Raffles Corporate Center, Emerald Ave., Pasig City	Takeshi Yoshioka	Technical Consultant

If you have any information/objection to the abovementioned application/s please communicate with the Regional Director.

RAYMUNDO G. AGRAVANTE
OIC, Regional Director

(PDI–September 1, 2007)

sbma SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Bldg. 255, Barryman St., Subic Bay Freeport Zone Philippines 2222
Tel Nos. (6347) 252-4214/4230/4282 • Fax: (6347) 252-4284/4251

ISO 9001 TUV CERTIFIED

SBMA-BAC-INV-11-07
Various Equipment
SBMA, SBFZ

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY (SBMA), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder items:

Lot #	Items to Bid	Approved Budget Cost (ABC)
LOT I	Various Air-conditioning Units for SBMA Departments	P 3,398,155.00
LOT II	Various Construction Supplies	P 1,774,214.30
LOT III	Oils and Lubricants	P 1,479,676.00
LOT IV	Various Traffic Signages	P 1,297,598.00

Prospective bidders must be manufacturers or authorized distributors of the above-mentioned supplies and equipments for bidding, must have proof of completion for the delivery of the same and related project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least fifty percent (50%) of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use a non-discretionary ***"pass/fail"*** criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to the Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed as follows:

Activities	Schedule	Venue
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	September 17-24, 2007 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	BAC Secretariat Procurement and Property Management Dept. (PPMD) Rm. 201, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ.
2. Pre-Bid Conference	September 24, 2007 2:00 p.m./Monday	PPMD Conference Room Procurement and Property Management Dept. (PPMD) Rm. 201, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ.
3. Submission/ Opening of Bids	October 10, 2007 2:00 p.m./Wednesday	Procurement and Property Management Dept. (PPMD) Rm. 201, Bldg. 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ.

Bid Documents will be available to prospective bidders only upon payment of a non-refundable amount of ***P2,500.00*** for Lot I and ***P1,500.00*** each for Lots II to IV to the SBMA Treasury Dept., Bldg. 229, Barryman Road, SBFZ.

The SBMA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

(Sgd.) ATTY. JOCELYN G. ALVARADO
BAC Chairman

(PDI - Sept. 1 & 8, 2007)

E-mail: pr_science_health@inquirer.com.ph

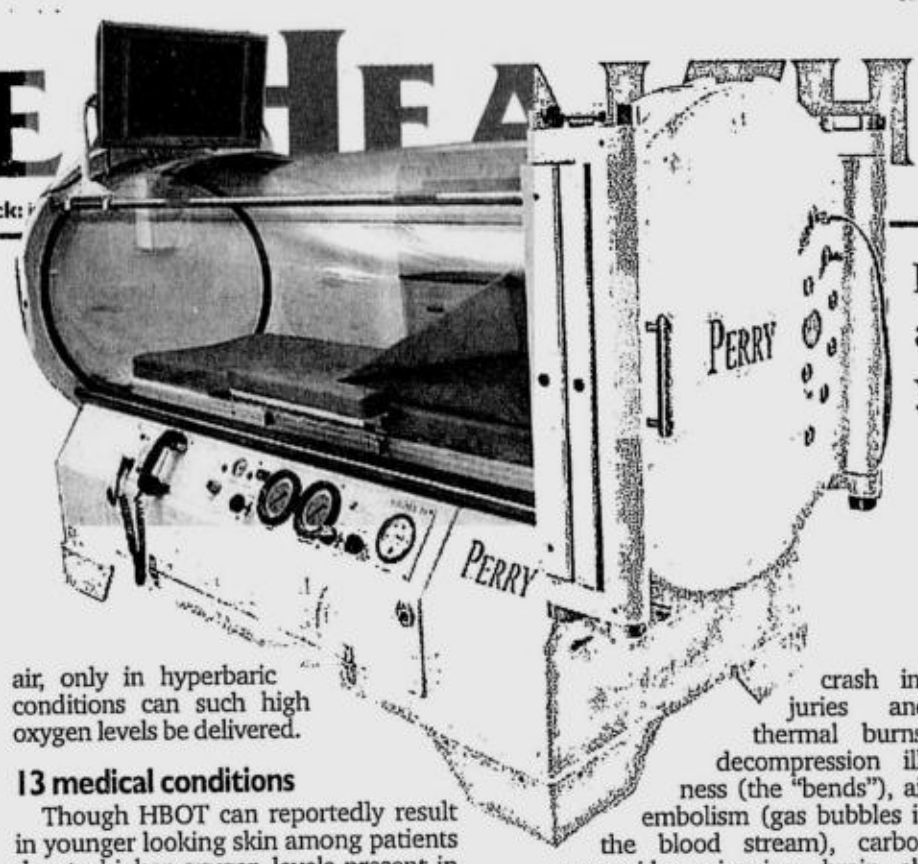
SCIENCE HEALTH

Text us your feedback:

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

Just breathe it!

Pure oxygen, not just fresh air, may be the remedy your body needs



By Tessa R. Salazar

MICHAEL JACKSON REPORTEDly owns one, and it seems to have worked wonders for his seemingly boundless energy on the performing stage. So why can't "ordinary mortals" have one, too?

The seven-foot-long airtight pressurized oxygen chamber more scientifically known as the hyperbaric oxygen chamber is now being utilized at the St. Luke's Medical Center.

The central mechanism in what is called the hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT), this chamber provides 100 percent pressurized oxygen which a patient lying inside inhales up to two hours per session.

Oxygenize body's plasma

According to experts at St. Luke's Hyperbaric Oxygen Unit, HBOT aims to oxygenize the body's plasma, the liquid part of the blood that requires roughly 1.4 times the atmospheric pressure at sea level to absorb oxygen (unlike the blood's hemoglobin which can easily absorb oxygen through normal respiration).

Oxygen absorption of the plasma offers numerous benefits. Experts say continued administration of HBOT helps eliminate nitrogen out of the body, and facilitates the faster healing of wounds due to complications of diabetes and other related disorders of the blood vessels. Persons at risk of decompression illness such as aviators, astronauts and compressed-air workers (such as deep sea divers) exposed to great pressure changes also stand to benefit from this treatment.

US-trained HBOT surgeons at St. Luke's explained during the Philippine College of Physicians-Zuellig Foundation health forum that the air we breathe every day has just 21 percent oxygen. A hyperbaric chamber ("hyper" means high, and "baric" means pressure) enables a person to breathe 100 percent oxygen under increased atmospheric pressure.

Dr. Menandro Siozon, HBOT unit head, and HBOT surgeons Enrique Esguerra and Martin Samson said that since the human body cannot supply high levels of oxygen beyond what is in ambient air, only in hyperbaric conditions can such high oxygen levels be delivered.

13 medical conditions

Though HBOT can reportedly result in younger looking skin among patients due to higher oxygen levels present in the capillaries under the skin, HBOT surgeons handling the fiberglass casket-like chamber use the apparatus only for 13 approved medical conditions (evidence-based indications for HBOT), and cosmetic rejuvenation programs aren't one of them.

These are diabetic wounds, refractory osteomyelitis (inflammation of the bone), gas gangrene (a deadly form of bacterial infection that causes death of tissues), bacterial infection of soft tissues, radiation damage, skin grafts and flaps, crash injuries and thermal burns, decompression illness (the "bends"), air embolism (gas bubbles in the blood stream), carbon monoxide poisoning, brain abscess, chronic infections of the face and neck and severe blood loss anemia.

Sioson disclosed that the chamber cost St. Luke's P20 million. Aside from this one-person capacity chamber, the hospital is planning to acquire a multiplace chamber in the future for off-label indications such as for skin rejuvenation or autism.

Not cheap

HBOT is a treatment recognized by the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine Society, an international organization of 2,500 diving or hyperbaric scientists and physicians from more than 50 countries. The chamber is becoming increasingly popular in the United States, starting with just 50 units in the late '90s to more than 5,000 units already in use.

Despite the boundless resource of oxygen, its pure form, Siozon said, is not cheap. In the United States, a patient would have to spend $200 for a two-hour session. The cost gets steeper in the Philippines, with a session costing P15,000. A typical treatment program would require 13 canisters, or 13 big tanks, of pressurized pure oxygen. Siozon stressed, however, that St. Luke's is also open for charity patients requiring HBOT.

Doctors also cited St. Luke's HBOT unit as adhering to international safety standards, particularly requirements specified by the National Fire Protection Association, Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine Society and US Food and Drug Administration.

Pretty shells can be dangerous

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

LAST MONTH, WE FEATURED marine biologist Lourdes "Luly" J. Cruz, our newest National Scientist, and her research on producing useful products from the poisons of cone snails. Some readers asked about Luly's tips on handling these animals.

I had the great pleasure to interview Luly for my book "Ten Outstanding Filipino Scientists" a few years back, and she emphasizes that cone snails pose a danger if not handled properly.

Have you ever collected shells by the seashore? They are indeed pretty, but be careful. Some of them house dangerous animals. When in doubt, do not touch these shells.

According to Luly, the sting of cones is painful, described by victims as "sharp and intense, not unlike the sting of the wasp, or like the burning of phosphorus under the skin." Numbness follows quickly, spreading from the stung site within 30 minutes, causing partial paralysis, blurred vision, difficulty in speech, swallowing and breathing.

Unconsciousness may occur, and in severe cases, coma followed by death due to respiratory paralysis. Survivors report general numbness and muscular weakness for some time, and nausea, vomiting, dizziness and fever.

Safety rules

When walking on the beach or swimming in the sea, observe the following rules:

• If you are not certain about the nature of the snail, resist the temptation to pick it up—even if the shell is strikingly beautiful. Prevention is still the best policy.

• If you must handle the animal, then first make sure to disturb it with a long tool to make it retract into its shell. Then pick it up from the broad or posterior end, since the proboscis and harpoon come out of the opening from the other end. As soon as the proboscis comes out though, immediately release the animal.

• Never place cone snails on the palm of your hand. Do not store them in pockets, bags, or baskets touching the body.

• When visiting a resort or a fishing village, ask residents about reported stings and encourage them to distribute safety information.

Helping a victim

When dealing with a stung victim, keep in mind that the main concern should be to prevent the poison from traveling from the stung site to other parts of the body. The stung limb should immediately be cooled and kept lower than the heart to prevent the toxin from spreading fast. The victim should be kept still until medical help arrives.

Applying a pressure immobilization bandage, also a common first aid for snake bites, may be effective when done properly. However, measures such as forcing the tiny puncture to bleed and applying tourniquets are not recommended, especially when done by inexperienced persons. Monitor the patient's vital signs. Make sure the victim's airway is free, and be ready to do mouth-to-mouth resuscitation when needed.

At the hospital, treat the victim as an emergency case. Oxygen should be given as soon as he/she shows initials of paralysis, while artificial respiration (intubation and ventilation) should be given at the first sign of breathing difficulties.

There is no specific antidote, though the patient can be given edrophonium or neostigmine. Analgesics, glucocorticoids and antihistamines have been given to alleviate pain and allergic reactions, but their role is uncertain. Antibiotics have also been given to prevent infection, and antitetanus measures used. Carefully inspect the wound site for any remaining portions of the stinger, and remove as soon as they are found.

Cone snails are beautiful, but warn your children that they may be dangerous.

* * *

Queena N. Lee-Chua, Ph.D. is professor of math and psychology at the Ateneo de Manila University. Contact her at blessbook@yahoo.com. "Ten Outstanding Filipino Scientists" is available in most bookstores, or call Anvil Publishing at 637-8840 to order a copy.

Revisiting the pigs

DISCOVER

Massie Santos Ballon

FIVE YEARS AGO I WROTE about the notion of using pigs as the organ donors for humans. Researchers in Europe and the United States were hyping this as a means of reducing the long lists of organ transplant patients around the world. Five years later, xenotransplantation doesn't seem to have moved much beyond the realm of possibility into practical application.

"The experimental development of xenotransplantation has been slower than anticipated," admitted David Cooper of the University of Pittsburgh's Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute and his colleagues in their recent review on the topic.

Making headlines

Though the idea had actually been around for a couple of decades, xenotransplantation didn't really make headlines until 2002. At the time, a group of Scottish researchers at PPL Therapeutics (best known for their work on Dolly the sheep) had turned their attention to pigs. They introduced piglets that lacked a gene which would have made the human body reject the animal's transplanted organ.

Not to be outdone, Novartis partially funded a biotech company in the United States that planned to offer organs from smaller pigs as better (sizewise) human matches.

Five years later, Novartis seems to have quietly shut down its spin-off project and PPL Therapeutics is gone. The Scottish company closed in 2004, and its American branch was bought out by a number of investors, among them the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Research

Currently known as Revivicor, the company is still involved in xenotransplantation research, though this topic has faded once more from the public eye. Regular reports from stem cell researchers helped people forget about the pigs.

Fears about pig diseases being transferred to humans have been eclipsed by avian flu. And though organ donations from both the living and the dead have increased worldwide, there are still people selling their kidneys. (One memorable INQUIRER article last year had Health Undersecretary Jade del Mundo protesting that Filipino donors were being "short-changed," receiving only P50,000 for their kidneys because of middlemen.) And there are still people dying while waiting for a transplant.

GT-knockout pigs

The clinical trials for xenotransplantation didn't happen two years ago as expected; that date has since shifted. Still, progress has been made. Pigs have been genetically engineered to remove the gene which would lead to immediate organ rejection in the event of a pig-to-human transplant.

Organs from these so-called GT-knockout pigs have been transplanted into baboons that survived for several months after. And, Cooper et al. note with satisfaction, while the baboons had medications to prevent organ rejection, the dosages were lower than expected.

Cooper et al.'s review in the July 15 issue of the journal Transplantation asked what the next step should be, and a few researchers gave their own opinions on the future of GT-knockout pigs in the same issue.

Genetic modifications

More genetic modifications are planned, but there is no consensus yet on what these will be. There were also concerns then about the safety of using animal organs in humans. Questions were raised about whether or not viruses could and/or would cross the species barrier.

Cooper et al. say that studies have somewhat alleviated some of those concerns. And, of course, there was the question of whether or not people would even consider, much less accept, having animal organs replace their own to stay alive. That may not be taken seriously until xenotransplantation becomes a viable alternative.

In short, xenotransplantation still remains something more sci-fi than scientific. Clinical trials might happen by 2012, but how long it would take from that moment to people being on a (possibly) shorter waiting list for a new heart, kidney, or liver is anyone's guess. "The potential benefits... remain immense," say Cooper et al. in closing. These are still pig promises waiting to be kept.

KIDS' QUIZ

By Emman Cena

THIS EARLY, ANIMATED MOVIES proved to be breakout hits of the year. Some of them, mostly those that featured animals, even smashed the box office when debuted in theaters worldwide. Among them were the most recent Pixar's flick "Ratatouille," the glorious return of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," the penguins in "Surf's Up" and of course the third "Shrek" movie.

You may be a pro on who's who in the said movies. But have you checked your knowledge of the animal groupings? Here's your test. Match the name of animals on the left with the name for their group on the right.

Animals	Name of their group
1. lions	a) bevy
2. quails	b) pride
3 cats	c) clowder
4. ants	d) gaggle
5. squirrels	e) colony
6. geese	f) dray
7. kittens	g) pod
8. toads	h) school
9. fish	i) kindle
10. whales	j) knot
	k) herd

Score: 1-4 Good; 5-7 Very Good; 8-10 Excellent

Answers: 1-b, 2-a, 3-c, 4-e, 5-f, 6-d, 7-i, 8-j, 9-h, 10-g

A dose of healing in Casablanca

MEDICAL FILES

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

CASABLANCA IN MOROCCO WAS the perfect setting for the 1942 classic featuring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. The movie depicted the plight of refugees who came in droves to Casablanca to escape the ever-spreading threat of Nazism in most parts of Europe. Casablanca was their jump off point to freedom in America.

"Casablanca then was a symbol of hope to the refugees, as it is now a symbol of faith and hope for our countrymen," said Fauad, a 50-something Moroccan who has spent most of his adult life as a tour guide.

He talked about his country passionately and spoke of Casablanca as the friendliest place on Earth, downplaying several suicide bombings which were carried out in this beautiful city of tall palm trees where the ever-present smiles in the faces of the people were a piquant contrast to the palpable fear and uncertainty from which they emerged.

Natural healing

For Fauad, everyone has a capacity to heal oneself and others by having a strong faith and harnessing one's spirituality. This inner power, Fauad said, could deliver oneself from any ailment, be it organic, functional or psychological. "Medicines can only work if one allows the healer in himself to be free and do what it is supposed to do," he said with conviction,"...and for so long as hope lives, the chance to heal and survive any ailment is ever present."

Fauad added that the healer in oneself draws its power from God, hence it can also be aptly called divine healing. If one doubts this fact, even the best medicines may have some difficulty in being effective.

This is what Fauad and a growing number of people worldwide believe as the natural process for healing, hence, it is called natural healing. When the body tissue repairs itself, it is doing what God naturally intended it to do via the body's immune system. Effective medicines complement how nature works. They boost the systems for healing that are actually present within the body, clearing away barriers impairing health.

Although we can appreciate some sense and divine logic in what Fauad and others say, what is difficult to accept for us physicians is to be told that medicine by itself has actually no lasting healing power and all it does at its very best is to delay death's inevitable arrival.

Prolonging survival

I think physicians cannot argue against this, but prolonging survival from an ailment is the goal of any form of scientific treatment, and so long as the quality of life—not only quantity or duration—is preserved, medicinal treatment may be deemed successful. A vegetative survival, as in the case of some comatose cases, cannot be labeled as a medical success although survival of the patient may be indefinitely prolonged.

We base our assumptions of the effectiveness of any form of therapy by its quantifiable or measurable clinical benefit to the patient, which can be duplicated from one patient to another having a similar medical condition. This is where natural healing may have its setback because it is difficult to document it and duplicate it in a series of patients.

Researchers have actually tried to evaluate the effectiveness of natural healing but without success, leading to their conclusion that it is not scientifically effective.

Placebo

A few controlled studies have been done on natural or faith healing and they showed no objectively measurable beneficial effect. Many patients however felt subjectively better, symptom-wise. A cancer patient, for example, may feel less pain or discomfort but the cancer tissues remain.

Survival is in no way improved. It can be argued though that the subjective feeling of improvement by itself is a positive outcome from natural healing, which may be equally important, as treatment of the cancer itself.

Doctors often attribute this to the placebo effect or the psychological boost that one gets when one believes he is receiving an effective form of treatment. It should also be noted that some ailments—say, a self-limiting febrile illness—will heal with or without treatment, and both patient and healer will tend to credit the most recent treatment for the cure.

Best form of therapy

Although I say that natural healing has not been scientifically documented to be effective, I say this with a part of my brain disagreeing. Any doctor who has practiced enough years will admit that he has been humbled a number of times when he has declared some cases as hopeless and terminal, only to be visited by the same patients again years after, without any trace of disease.

A combination of scientific and natural healing might just be the best form of therapy one can get.

I hope Fauad, full of faith, hope and spirituality, will not disagree.

Designing a house with a soul

LIVING ARCHITECTURE

Marcos de Guzman Jr.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE DESIGN of a house can affect the relationships between family members?

Most definitely. While it is true that the basic function of a house is shelter, proper design can actually bring families closer and enhance relationships. The size of the house is not as important as its functionality. When planning to build or improve your home, consider these tips, which have been known to inspire family interaction.

Living room

The living room, which I would rather call the family room, is the place wherein the members can stay, play or even pray together.

In designer houses, it is not fashionable to have a TV set in the living room. However, in the average house, this is where the entertainment center is found. Just ensure that the TV set is not the sole focal point of the room and that other activities can take place there simultaneously.

Dining room

The dining room must be situated in one of the most comfortable spots in the house. Do not put TV sets in this area. Mealtime is the best opportunity to hold family discussion, so keep this family time focused.

Try to include a place for a breakfast caddy where oven toasters, microwave ovens, coffee makers and water dispensers can be stored, near the actual dining area. This will teach the children to help themselves, instead of relying on other persons to do things for them.

Kitchen

The kitchen must be properly planned for time and motion efficiency. If planned well, this may be the best area in the house where the kids can learn how to organize. A neat and functional kitchen may also arouse the children's interest in cooking.

It would be great to have a double bowl kitchen sink that two people can use simultaneously. Instead of having one kitchen faucet that swivels, install two separate faucets. This type of sink will enable siblings to share the responsibility of washing dishes, which could make the task more enjoyable.

Bedroom

Do not put a TV set inside your bedroom. This will allow the couple more time to talk to each other and more time for intimacy.

Although many people have workstations inside the bedroom, it is advisable to have this in a separate area or tucked away in a corner where it will not distinctly remind you of daily activities and problems, thus affecting your sleep or your attention to your spouse. However, it is all right to have a small writing desk for your journal or short reminders.

Some people like to put a refrigerator inside their bedroom, just like in hotels, but this is not always a good idea. It is much better to share meals with the other members of the family rather than eating by yourself. Having food so close at hand can be too much temptation.

It is nice to have positive mental attitude triggering mechanisms inside your room. It could be in the form of your family pictures, children's photos, or pleasant souvenirs from your trips. It can be a picture of religious devotion or a holy icon.

It is not necessary to give each of your children his own room. It is important, however, to give each one of them his own space. Siblings of the same gender can share one big room with their own area defined with a divider of sorts for a little privacy. This enables them to interact even while keeping their own space. The bigger room also allows for better ventilation and can be more economical to cool.

On the other hand, giving them their own rooms would create too much individualism and will rob them of the opportunity to mingle and communicate. Make sure that lighting is designed carefully, such that each person can get as much or as little as he needs.

Bathroom

A good time to plan your day could be in the toilet, since it is often the first place you go in the morning. Make enough room in front of the mirror for the couple to use it simultaneously.

You do not need two washbasins; one will do, as long as there is sufficient space for a second person. This translates to approximately an additional 15 minutes of available time for spouses to communicate, which is vital if the spouses are always in a hurry every morning.

Common spaces

If possible, it is better to have a common study area that is comfortable and free of distractions, meaning no TV and no play station. A computer may be placed but strict guidelines when it comes to games and entertainment must be imposed.

It is ideal to have only one TV set per home. This ensures that the family members can watch shows together. It likewise allows the family to learn the art of negotiation and reciprocity. Later in life, this skill could prove useful, especially if they decide to go into business together.

It would be nice to have a space in the house to store your books and reading materials, with well-lit corners to sit and read. This is one activity that must be encouraged in kids early on. Children's books should be placed within the child's reach, while any adult books should be kept away or on higher shelves.

These are just a few points that can be considered in designing or renovating a home with family togetherness as the main objective in mind. With careful thought, you can come up with other clever ways to help turn your house into a home with a soul.

Units sell briskly as CrownAsia's Italian enclave nears completion

IN A NEARLY COMPLETED COMmunity, you are given the opportunity to easily discern the type of residence to suit your family's living requirements, perceive features that will complement your lifestyle, and get a feel of your future neighborhood before actually moving in.

The country's pioneer developer of master-planned, themed enclaves with befitting style while remaining within the reach of Filipino families, CrownAsia, recently held the topping-off ceremony for the clubhouse of its already lived-in residential project, Amici on Daang Hari, Alabang.

A proud affiliate of Vista Land & Lifescapes Inc., CrownAsia continues to honor its commitment to the Filipino family to deliver homes and projects on time. Vista Land is the Philippines' largest homebuilder offering homes for all income segments and catering to different lifestyles across the entire country.

Deciding to settle down in Amici gives the advantages of a lived-in community such as the chance to interact with various neighbors while maintaining your privacy, feel at peace in your own home with the community's round the clock security, let your children find playmates not far away from home, and soon enjoy the amenities and facilities that are already under construction.

THE ALLEGRA model features a master's bedroom with its own balcony to enjoy the lush greens at Amici.

An encompassing theme

Amici boasts of an encompassing Mediterranean concept where the charm and elegance of Italian towns are captivated and married with the solace of a quaint community. Due to the market's great reception of the Italian-inspired Amici, only a limited number of home and lot packages are still available.

Future residents can choose among the model homes Annissa, Annora, Allegra or Amara with floor areas ranging from 60 to 105 sq m on a 112 to 130-sq-m lot. The interiors of the models are tastefully designed by Katrina Jacildo and Cecil Nervaez of Deco Krel to complete the Mediterranean ambiance. Price starts at P2 million.

Relaxing within the community

A testament to CrownAsia's aspiration to duly deliver the homes to its owners and Amici's on-time development is the recent groundbreaking of the multipurpose hall and leisure complex where a clubhouse, swimming pool and basketball court will rise to promote relaxation without having to head out of the community.

Landscaped pocket gardens and playparks interspersed in different clusters around the community are also present to encourage interaction among neighbors.

Accessibility

Amici also recently opened its second gate and new access road on Daang Hari to bring down travel to and from Alabang to a mere five minutes and to the Makati central business district (CBD) to 30 minutes. Getting to Tagaytay will only take 45 minutes via Amici's primary Southvale entrance on National Irrigation Administration (NIA) Road.

Visit Amici and unearth more benefits of dwelling in "a friendly neighborhood" nearing completion. For inquiries, call 873-1614 and 873-6610 or log on to www.crownasia.com.ph.

TASTEFULLY designed interiors evoke Italy's charm.

BPO firms express keen interest in staff housing

A GOOD NUMBER OF BUSINESS process outsourcing (BPO) companies have expressed their strong interest in Woodridge Residences, a priority project of property giant Megaworld Corp. Located in McKinley Hill Cyberpark, Fort Bonifacio, Woodridge Residences is expected to enhance the ability of BPO firms to retain their staff, according to the top residential condominium and BPO office buildings developer.

"The Woodridge Residences is a set of six-story buildings that we conceptualized specifically for BPO staff," Megaworld FVP Jericho Go said. "Employees need only to move into the furnished units. BPO companies can offer these living accommodations as a housing benefit to their staff. This is our way of helping our BPO clients in their personnel retention program.

"The interested BPO firms are closely monitoring the development of the first cluster of Woodridge Residences, since construction will begin soon," Go continued. "We expect discussions to heat up further when it is completed in two or three years.

Dorm-style residences

Woodridge units will solely be 26-square-meter studios that can accommodate one to four persons. Megaworld will lease the dormitory-style residences to BPO firms, which may fully or partially subsidize the lease.

For the tenants' ease and comfort, the ground floor of Woodridge will be lined by a 24/7 convenience store and service outlets. In addition, Woodridge will rise just across The Venetian mall, which will entice the generally young BPO workforce via its bevy of retail and dining outlets.

2 residential towers

Woodridge is the second set of residential towers at McKinley to target BPO workers in particular. The first is Stamford Executive Residences, whose Tower 1 is under construction as well.

Both Woodridge and Stamford will be strategically situated in McKinley Hill Cyberpark, which will host BPO office buildings. One World Square, the first BPO building in the area, offers 30,000 square meters of prime office space, while Two World Square is now under construction. One Campus Place, on the other hand, will be composed of two medium-rise buildings designed according to BPO companies' specifications and will be set in a campus-style, tree-lined complex.

"Because their offices are a leisurely walk away, BPO workers can take it easy going or leaving home any time of the day," Go remarked.

New BPO office buildings

Megaworld has committed to construct at least two new BPO office buildings per year in the 14-hectare McKinley Hill Cyberpark. As an IT Park, it entitles locators to various incentives. The Cyberpark is founded on Megaworld's success with Eastwood City Cyberpark, the Philippines' first IT ecozone.

McKinley Hill Cyberpark is part of the 50-hectare McKinley Hill, the largest mixed-use township development of Megaworld that aims to give residents and locators a total Live-Work-Play-Learn environment.

McKinley Hill provides easy access to Makati, Ortigas, and the airport via C5 and Edsa. The township's main artery, Upper McKinley Road, connects directly to McKinley Road and to Makati City's main thoroughfare, Ayala Avenue.

Interested BPO locators may inquire about the living accommodations at Woodridge Residences and the prime office spaces at McKinley Hill Cyberpark by calling 912-0708, sending an e-mail to jcespinosa@megaworldcorp.com or checking out www.megaworldcorp.com.

Cypress Towers a refreshing change of pace

A FEW YEARS BACK, REAL-TIME communication consisted of the rotary dial or the coin operated telephones. Today, it is the intricate interlace of some 40 million mobile units, in addition to the Web of networked personal computers.

Formerly, going to the movies or doing your grocery at 11 p.m. was totally unheard of. Today, people do it routinely.

These examples speak more than just about current technological advance, or the continued efforts of the service sector for betterment, or the availability of alternative income options that have opened up for the Filipino workforce. Beyond expediency and opportunities, these scenarios likewise reflect the challenges and realities we have to contend with in this ever-evolving urban landscape.

Life in the metro

Indeed, life in the metro has become a juggling act. Success, to a great extent, is now based on one's ability to keep pace with society's rapid changes and harness the potentials that come with them.

But often, in the steep climb atop the corporate ladder or the mad dash for entrepreneurship's invisible finish line, young, courageous, driven professionals are sidetracked from an equally important facet of holistic progress.

Lack of quality time and bonding opportunities among family members have been invariably labeled as the culprits. Too bad there is just no way to add any more to a day's 24 hours, or to return to the laid-back simplicity of the olden days.

Triple A builder/developer DMCI Homes recognizes the importance of a home that not only is superbly built, affordable and one that encourages family togetherness, but also one that does not inconveniently detach you from the city's pulse. DMCI Homes has relentlessly pursued this track by continuously coming up with first-rate projects in centrally located and fully serviced communities.

Cypress Towers is a fine example of a development that responds to the need of today's urban warriors for an ideal home.

Strategically sitting on a 10,700-square-meter prime lot on C5 Road in the progressive city of Taguig, Cypress Towers is a gated community of three uniquely designed high-rise buildings. It is near the necessary bustle of the major business and commercial hubs of Makati, Ortigas and Bonifacio Global City, but is master planned to provide for a lifestyle that is isolated and conducive for rearing a family.

A highlight of the development is the buildings' configuration that takes after the pinwheel. With this pioneering design, air flows freely and natural lighting is enhanced, providing a cleaner and fresher living space. This sets the tone for a wealth of other features that are caringly appointed to ensure enjoyable daily events at Cypress Towers.

Resort-like amenities

Sixty percent of the total land area is allotted for resort-like recreational facilities, landscaped areas and open spaces. Amenities that individual members and even whole families can readily enjoy include a Wi-Fi-ready clubhouse, a swimming pool, a children's playground, viewing decks, a sky lounge, indoor and al fresco dining areas, gazebos, a badminton court, a game room, a fitness room and jogging paths.

Also, outdoor elements are made available inside the buildings through single-loaded corridors which allow units to open up to a garden atrium instead of neighboring doors. Ultimately, this gives residents the much-sought-after privacy that other high-rise developments fail to provide.

To complete the lavish Cypress Towers experience, a team of professional property managers is on constant standby to make sure that security and convenience are readily and continually enjoyed by residents and their guests.

With today's accelerated pace of human transactions, it is reassuring to know that there is still a sanctuary in the city where time stands still and family is priority.

Smorgasbord of developments from Ayala, SM

From page B8

Sports and leisure recreational facilities are also planned for the Pico de Loro Beach and Country Club.

Majestic views of Hamilo Coast and its surrounding vistas will be achieved via its eco-adventure tours for nature lovers, experienced mountaineers or trekkers specific to their level of expertise to be supervised by Sandugo Adventure, a team of total adventure specialists

Price ranges

CII's Celadon Park's one-bedroom to three-bedroom units range from P3.8 million to P8.6 million, while Celadon Residences' units at 168 sq m, 194 sq m and 204 sq m range from P9.5 to P12.5 million.

Units at SMDC's Chateau Elysee ranges from 20 sq m at P980,000 to 40 sq m two bedroom unit at P1.8 million.

SMIC's Hamilo Coast Pico de Loro condo unit price, according to market prices online, ranges from P2 million for a studio unit to 12 million for a penthouse unit.

Editor Cesar D. Mangawang

PROPERTY

Smorgasbord of developments from Ayala, SM

By Tessa R. Salazar

THERE'S NO LET-UP OF projects for Ayala-subsidiary Community Innovations Inc. (CII), SM Development Corp. and SM Investments Corp.

CII is developing a 6-hectare in-city property on Felix Huertas Street, San Lazaro, Manila, which includes a townhouse, condominium and retail infrastructure.

SM Development Corp. is into a new cluster of medium-rise towers near SM Bicutan, Taguig, while Hamilo Coast in Nasugbu Batangas, an Eco-Tourism project of SM Investments Corp., will feature 11 condominiums in Pico de Loro Cove (the first of Hamilo Coast's 13 coastal developments).

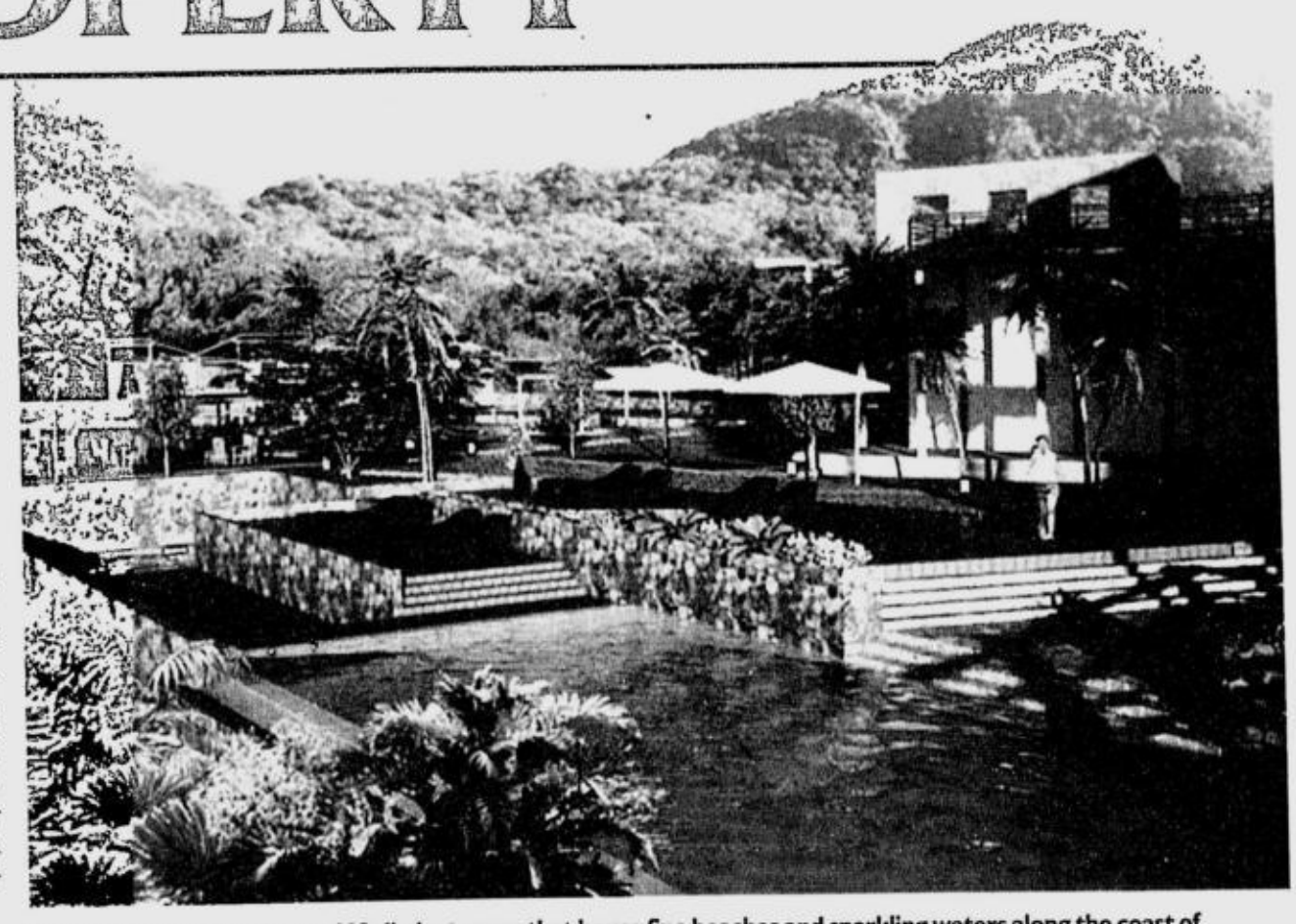
Leisure community

Celadon Manila is the leisure community from Ayala Land's subsidiaries in uptown Manila. It is surrounded by nearly 35,000 square meters of open spaces which CII claims is the largest in any residential development in Manila. Celadon Manila includes the Celadon Residences (gated Mediterranean-inspired townhouses) and Celadon Park (condominiums with meditation garden and swimming pool, among other amenities).

Ayala Malls' shops at Celadon are in the pipeline, and these include coffee shops, health spas, salons and dining destinations. On the rise is the biggest BPO (business process outsourcing) site in Manila, courtesy of the Ayala Land's Commercial Business Group. Celadon Manila's BPO center will be the first call center site in Manila with retail and leisure amenities open at extended hours.

Cluster of towers

SM Development has launched a cluster of medium-rise towers offering a total of 500 units at its Chateau Elysee condominium village in Bicutan, Parañaque City.



HAMILO Coast is made up of 13 distinct coves that house fine beaches and sparkling waters along the coast of Nasugbu in Batangas. The Pico de Loro Cove is the first of Hamilo Coast's thirteen coastal developments.

CELADON Park's two-bedroom living room

The new cluster of the French-Mediterranean-themed Chateau Elysee consists of four medium-rise buildings, each offering 125 units. These buildings have a mix of one- and two-bedroom units with gross floor areas of 20 sq m and 40 to 46 sq m, respectively.

Balanced mix

Pico de Loro Cove has a balanced mix of residential districts, leisure amenities and adventure facilities. The Boardwalk within the Hamilo Coast will have a mix of retail stores, food outlets and entertainment venues.

Smorgasbord/ B7

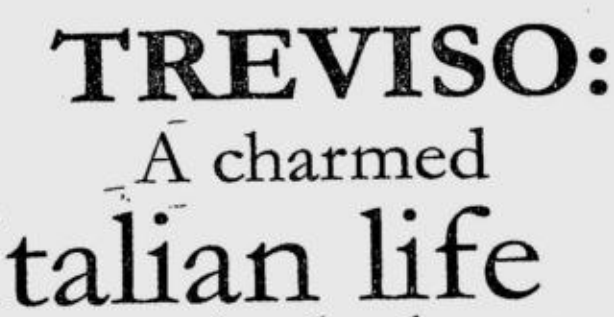
CELADON Residence's guest room/home office

TREVISO: A charmed Italian life in the heart of Quezon City

TREVISO QUEZON CITY

LIVING A CHARMED LIFE

Welcome to a place where the sun writes its name on golden walls and intimate streets. Welcome to a place where neighbors greet each other with friendly familiarity. Welcome to the warmth of Italian living in the heart of the city.



Prime location

Imagine that all your needs are just minutes away. Treviso lets you escape to a relaxing community, while still giving you access to a wide range of commercial and educational establishments. It allows you to enjoy the comforts of urban living, as you bask in the view of the scenic Montalban mountainscape. Be part of an exclusive community in the last high-end development in the heart of Quezon City. Treviso is truly the ideal place to raise your family.

A charmed life

Imagine an intimate atmosphere surrounded by friends and neighbors. Treviso brings the warmth of a small Italian village to life. Be showered with warm smiles and Buon Giornos as you take a walk through our quaint roads.

Come home to Italy

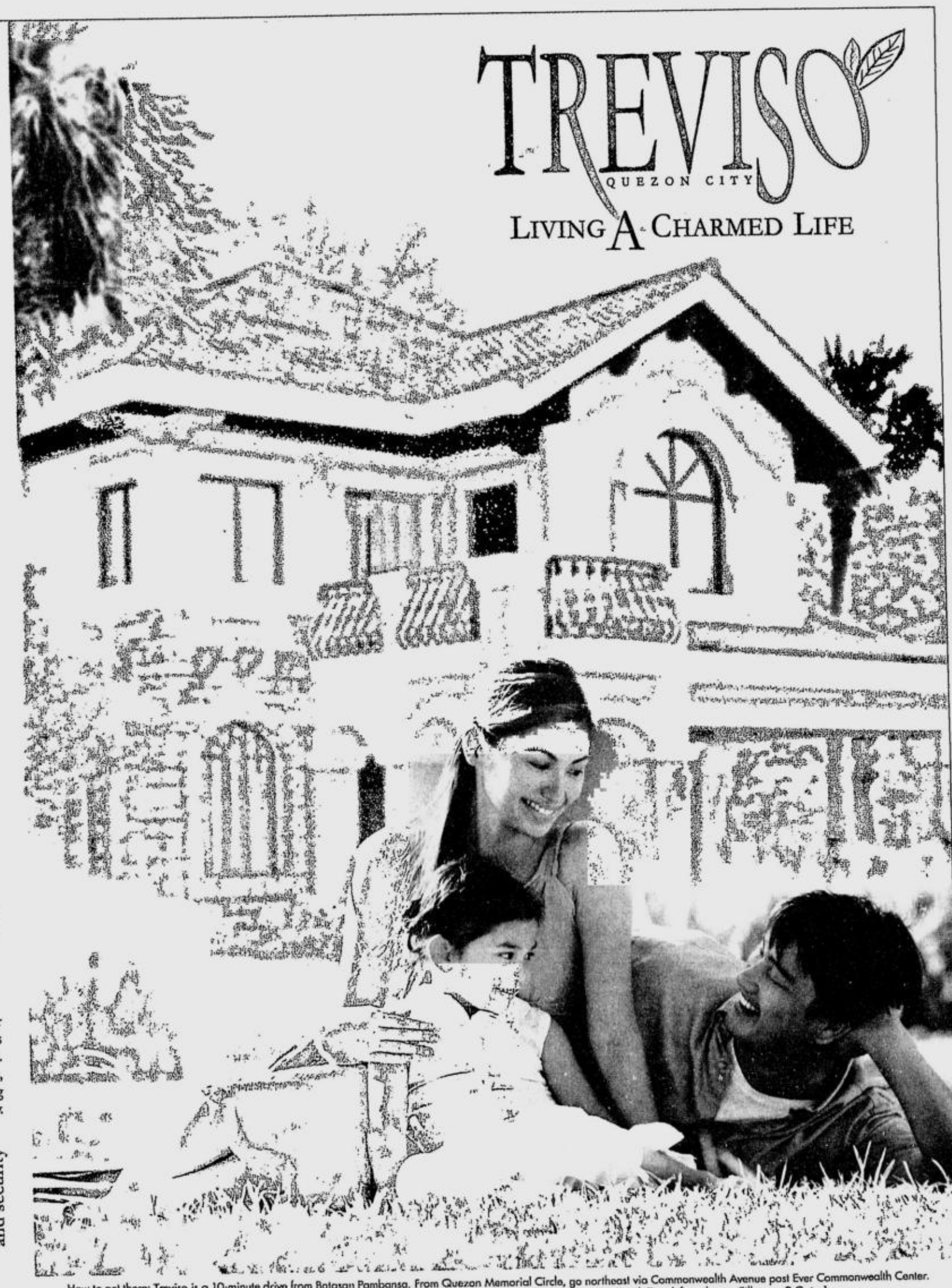
Imagine coming home to a slice of Italy. Own your spacious single-detached unit that exudes the timeless grace and charm of Italian architecture. Choose Vittoria. Or Apollonia. Designed with classic contemporary lines, these units combine form and function, while offering each family member enough room to rest, play and grow.

Exclusivity and security

Imagine Treviso's round-the-clock security, high and sturdy perimeter fence, and well-protected main gate as you live in comfort and safety in your new home in this exclusive community.

All in the neighborhood

At Treviso, we bring you what you imagine – a warm neighborhood, an exclusive enclave. It's all about living well and living the charmed life. So let Treviso invite you, enchant you, enfold you.



How to get there: Treviso is a 10-minute drive from Batasan Pambansa. From Quezon Memorial Circle, go northeast via Commonwealth Avenue past Ever Commonwealth Center. Turn right before Sandiganbayan to Batasan Road, then right again to Batasan - San Mateo Road. Turn left and enter Filhomes 2 Gate 1.

Sales Office: Visit our office at 2nd floor Royale Place Mall, Don Antonio Drive, Commonwealth, Quezon City. We will be happy to provide viewing arrangements with you

932-1201 • 932-1205 www.treviso.com.ph FILINVEST

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph
Text us your feedback: Inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Editor Pam Pastor
Contributing Editor Katrina A. Holigores

style • urban living • pop culture • entertainment • recreation

super

Seeing greens

Angel Aquino comes clean for the planet
by Tals Diaz

The art of saying no
by Katrina A. Holigores

Instant doodles
by James Gabrillo

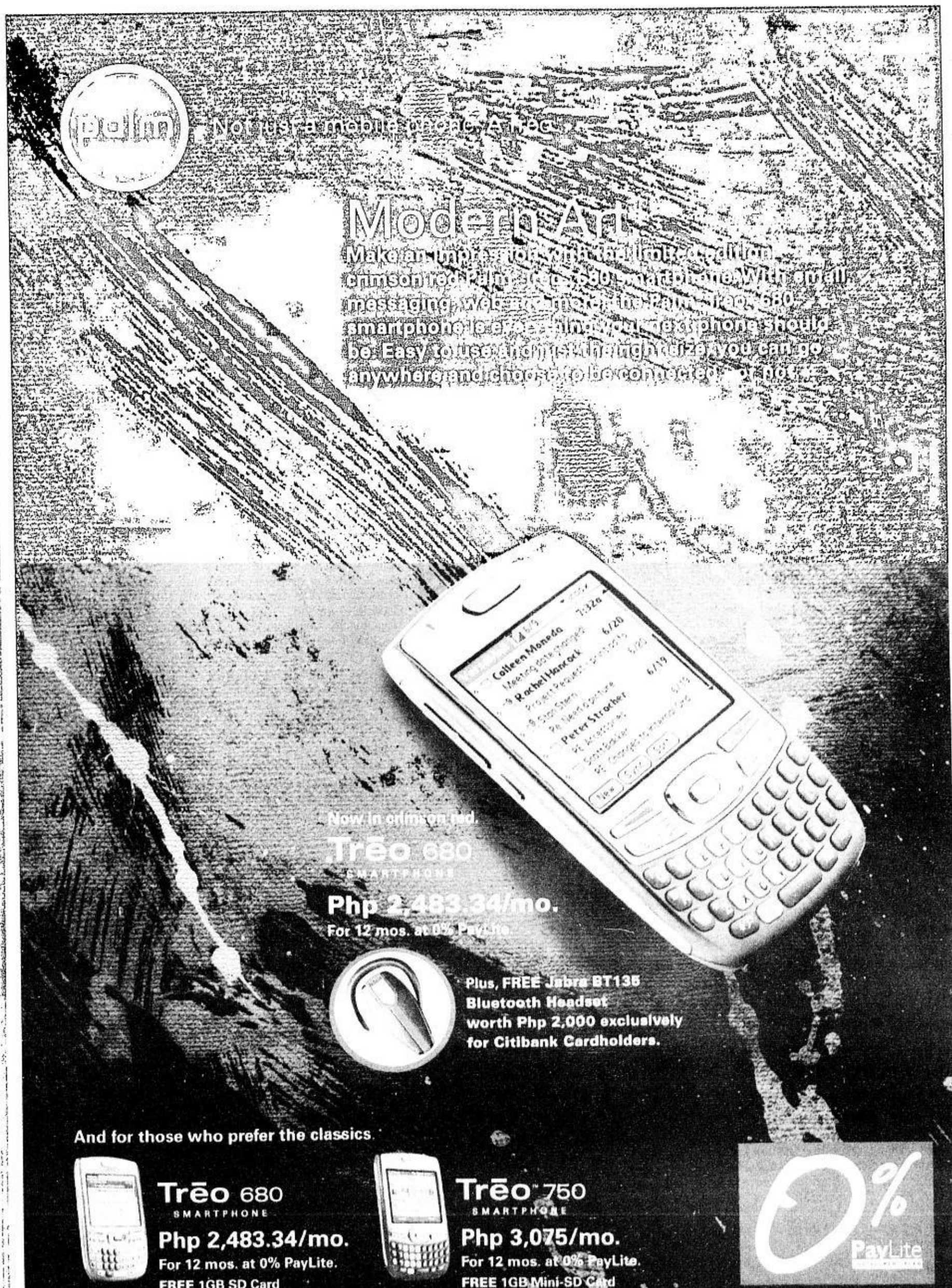
A global takeover
by Wanggo Gallaga

Breaking into the Oval Office
by Juana R. Manahan

Cover story credits: Makeup by Joanne Quintas for Shu Uemura; Photo by Jim Guiao Punzalan

This superfresh new logo is brought to you by **Team FXB**. Just who are they? They are the hip, hot team who create arresting eye-candy that you've most likely imprinted already in your visual memory. Team Futura Extra Bold Design, led by the fiery duo of Lorraine Meñez-Obusan and Kara Tolentino, is the award-winning force majeure of the local graphic design sphere. They've whipped up highly creative and dynamic visuals for some big-name landmarks in the pop culture and fashion horizon, such as Embassy Superclub, Essenses, Linea Italia Group, Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, Fully Booked, Gourdo's, Rustan's Marketing's YVIP, and Sentro. Take a peek into their gallery by checking out www.fxbdesign.com. Super thanks for the spankin' new Super logo.

super



Eco-logic Chic

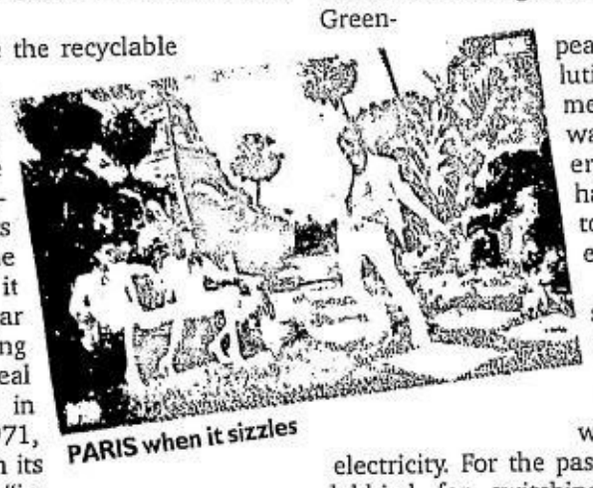
(Or why Angel Aquino is not plastic)

AMONG ALL THE PLANETS IN THE Solar System, I'd say Earth has got the best PR agent.

I've twice seen "An Inconvenient Truth," and got choked up seeing all those polar bears drifting along on broken ice sheets. I downloaded those gorgeously art directed, apocalypti-cool "Global Warming Ready" Diesel ads showing stylish, suntanned models in a hip dystopia. I took the cue from long-lost cousin Cameron Diaz and started driving a hybrid Prius (in my dreams). I made a mental Post-It to catch Leo di-Caprio's new docu, "The 11th Hour," and read Vanity Fair's Green Issue (biodegradable). Oh and I totally caught Snow Patrol performing in the Live Aid concerts (in You Tube).

Something has become absolutely clear, as clear as an unpolluted, carbon emissionless sky: pop culture has given eco-consciousness a huge publicity boost. And I have become a willing victim of all this cause marketing, thanks to the promise of a clean conscience. Hey, anything I can do for the planet right? Green is sooo the new black.

Yet way before the recyclable shopping bag became the new Birkin bag, there was already one international enterprise doing its part to save the planet, be it protesting nuclear testing to saving whales and seal pups. Founded in Vancouver in 1971, Greenpeace is, in its own words, an "independent, campaigning organization which uses peaceful direct action and creative communication to expose global environmental problems, and to force solutions for a green and peaceful future. Greenpeace's goal is to ensure the ability of the earth to nurture life in all its diversity." Say that again!


PARIS when it sizzles

Coal war

On the local scene, I recently caught up with Greenpeace Philippines, which has long been actively raising awareness for eco issues. One of these is waging war against the use of coal, the dirtiest fossil fuel, as the country's main energy source. (Blimey, I didn't know that until I recently spoke with the impassioned Greenpeace crew!) Coal is major pollutant that emits much more carbon than other energy sources, and thus greatly contributes to climate change. The huge environmental and social cost associated with coal usage makes it an expensive option for developing countries like the Philippines.

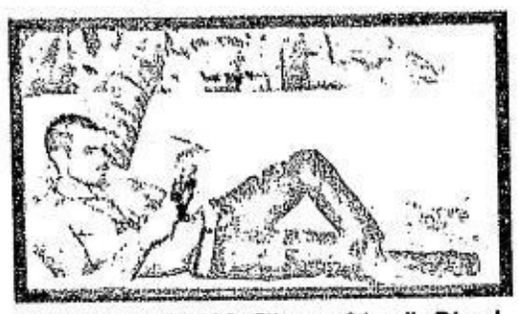
Acid drainage from coal mines that pollute rivers and streams, to the release of toxins and climate-destroying gases and fine particulates that wreak havoc on our health ... read the headlines—coal is not cool!

Do it for the planet

So what *can* you do beyond Googling for the planet? Greenpeace Philippines recently launched a local eco campaign that aims to involve all Filipinos in an energy revolution. Simply enough, it's called "Simple Lang." And I'm honored to declare that Super has joined forces with them to instigate what we call the Super Simple Lang initiative. It began with the awareness that climate change causes extreme weather conditions, like drought and excessive rainfall, which leads to a great rise in the sea level. Greenpeace's Energy Revolution asks governments to change the way we produce energy; to shift from harmful fossil fuels to clean, renewable energy.

Simple Lang starts on the individual level: it urges each person to change the way we use and consume electricity. For the past two months, they lobbied for switching off and unplugging appliances that are not in use. That's because appliances continue to consume energy even if they are not in use as long as they are on standby mode.

This September, the Super Simple Lang initiative encourages everyone to light up efficiently. Use energy efficient lighting systems such as compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) or light emitting diodes as well as to maximize the natural light that we have. CFLs are brighter, eight times more efficient, and last longer than incandescents.


GLOBAL HOTNESS. Climate-friendly Diesel ad campaign

Earth Angel

Applying the successful pop culture blueprint of having celebs champion worthy causes, Greenpeace has already attracted various local celebrity volunteers like Noel Cabangon, Amanda Griffin, Richard Gutierrez, Chinchin Gutierrez, Chito Miranda and Parokya, Sugarfree, and Juddha Paolo, all of whom I'd affectionately call "Gang Green."

Spreading her green wings for us in this issue is ultra-active Greenpeace volunteer Angel Aquino, who comes clean about doing her part for the planet:

Have you always been green-minded, so to speak?

I've always been wondering about how I can do bigger actions to try to help the environment, and how to educate people about it. Way before I signed up for Greenpeace, I was already doing my part. I wouldn't use plastic, I avoided take-out as much as possible so I would lessen the use of plastic, I'd segregate trash at home, and teach my kids about it.

How did you hook up with Greenpeace?

We always see these environmental issues on the news or on Discovery Channel, and I really wanted to help in a bigger way. Then one time, I saw Greenpeace volunteers in a mall, signing up people. So I signed up. They'd update me on the issues regularly. It became so much more real to me when Beng (Reyes Ong), who's a good friend of mine and manages the relations of personalities with Greenpeace, approached me about promoting campaigns, and I said yes without batting an eyelash.

You mentioned teaching your kids about being eco-friendly. How do you teach those who aren't too aware of these eco issues to do their part?

By implementation. They see me do it, so they follow. When I see trash around, I pick it up.

Even in the movie theaters?

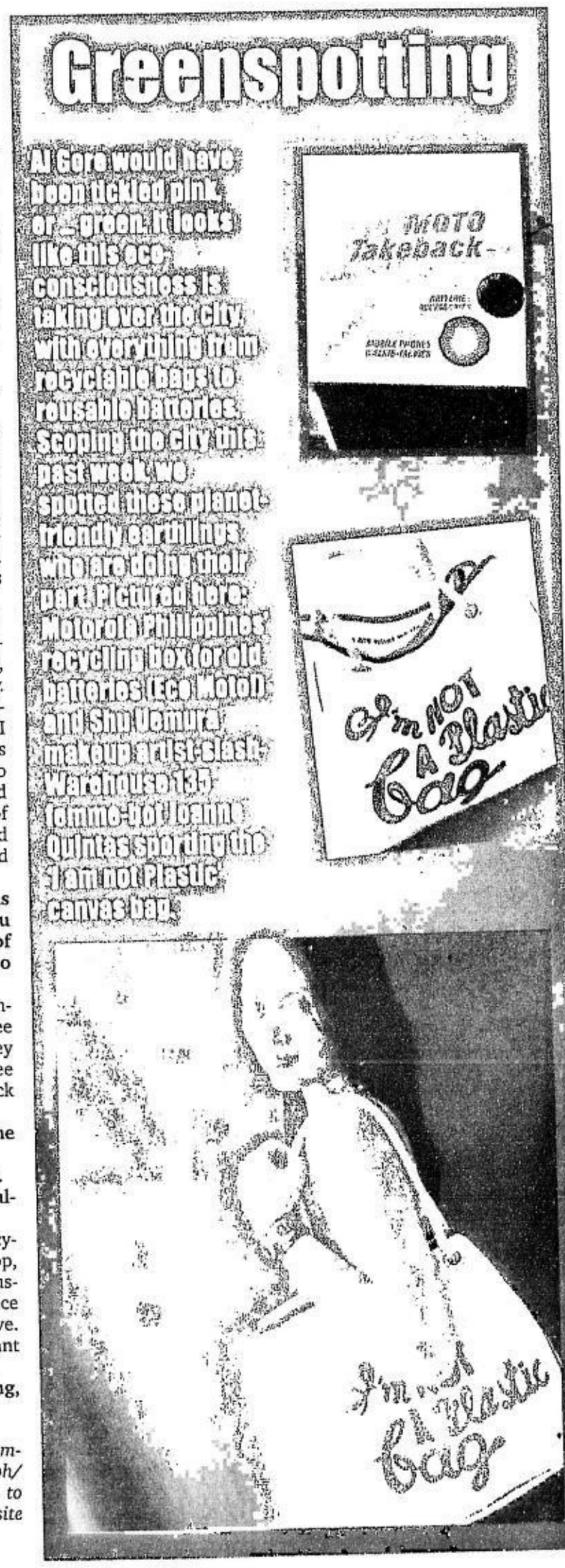
Even in cinemas.

(I heart you already.)

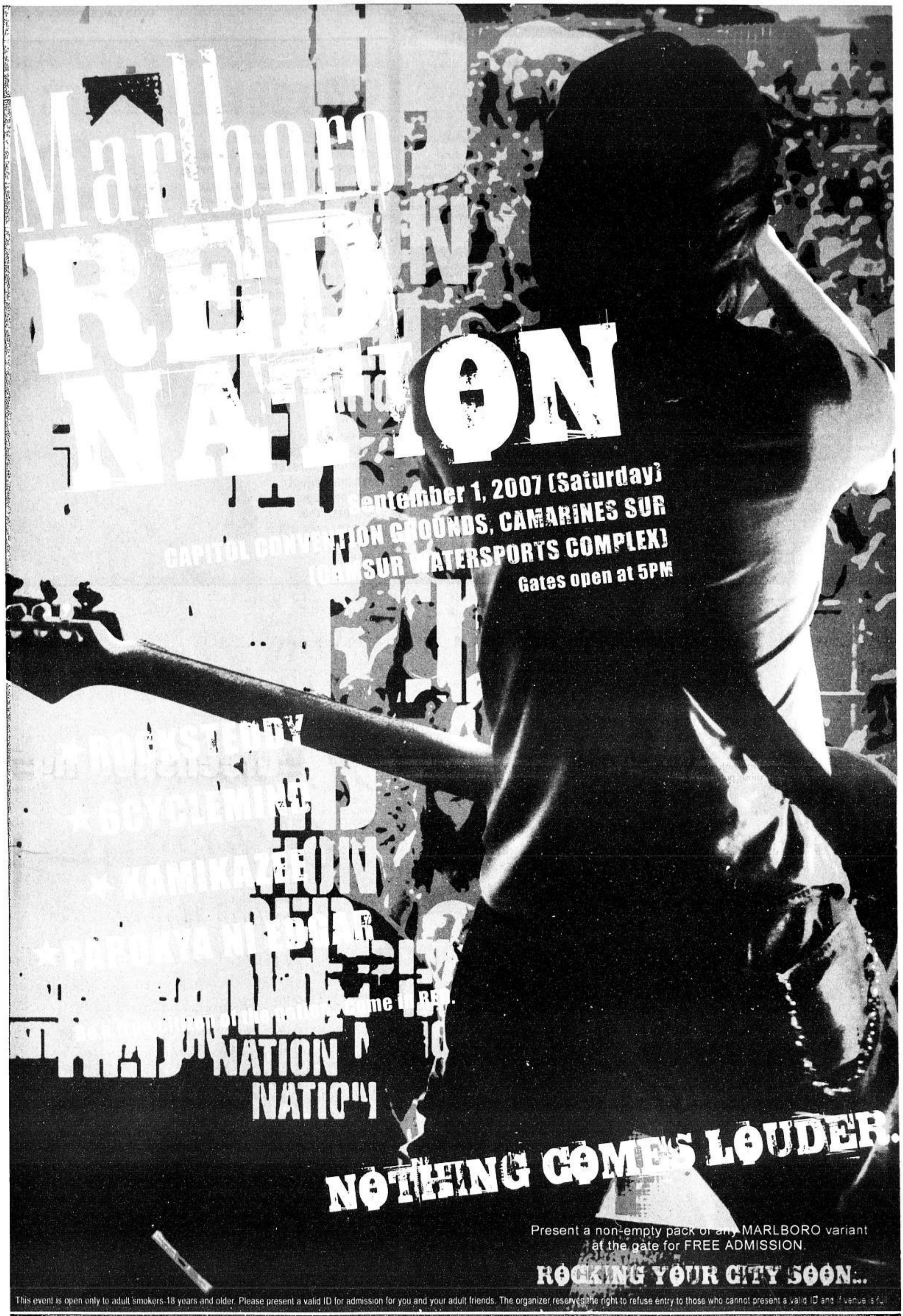
I also bring a recyclable bag to the grocery store when I shop, or go to the convenience store to avoid using plastic bags. I tell my kids that once plastic gets into the soil, it'll never dissolve. Once, my kid came up to me saying, "I want to be a lawyer for the environment."

Never knew there was such a thing, but that is really cool.

To know more about the Simple Lang campaign, log on to www.greenpeace.org.ph/simplelang or text ON GREENPEACE to 2948. Visit the Greenpeace website (act@ph.greenpeace.org).



C3



Government Warning:
Cigarette smoking is dangerous
to your health

TASTE the sumptuous continental dishes of Colin Mackay at his newly-relocated Sala, which has moved out of bohemian Malate and into cosmopolitan Makati. Sala now inhabits the space once occupied by Lumiere at the Locsin Building (Makati Ave. cor. Ayala Ave., Makati), while Sala Bistro will soon open beside Mackay's popular Thai resto, People's Palace, in Greenbelt 3. Call 750-1555 for reservations.

super RUBBER Inc.

HEAR the dynamic, sonic duet between talented electronic artists Rubber Inc. and their internationally-acclaimed German collaborators, the Teichmann Brothers. The two groups will dish out top-caliber electronica at The Loft in Cebu City tonight, followed by performances on Sept. 5 in Nuvo and on Sept. 8 in Warehouse 135, where they will also be holding a music workshop. Call 817-0978.

24/7

Super Radar

By Paolo R. Reyes and Janine Cuenca-Dario

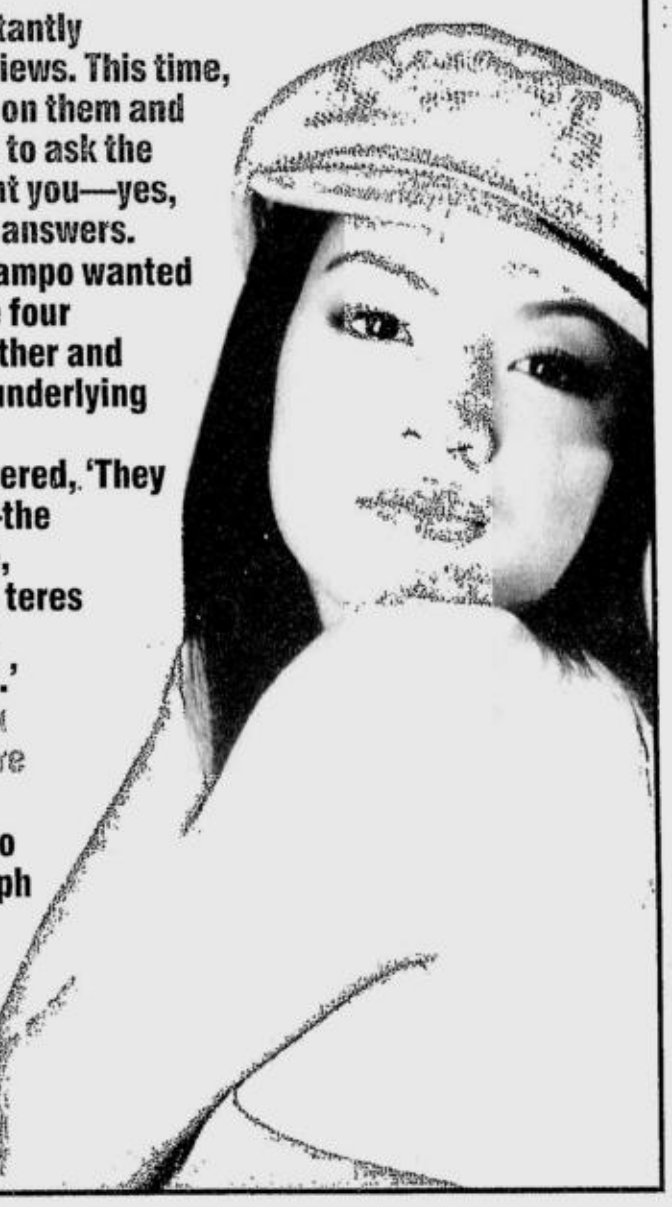
SMELL the sweet, intoxicating aroma of new books at the 28th Manila International Book Fair, the country's largest and longest-running book fair. The fair is now on its last two days at the World Trade Center. Tomorrow at 6 p.m., hip Filipino book club Read or Die will be hosting a Literary Death Match, "Write or Die," where writing groups will duke it out to a (hopefully) captive audience. Visit www.manilabookfair.com.

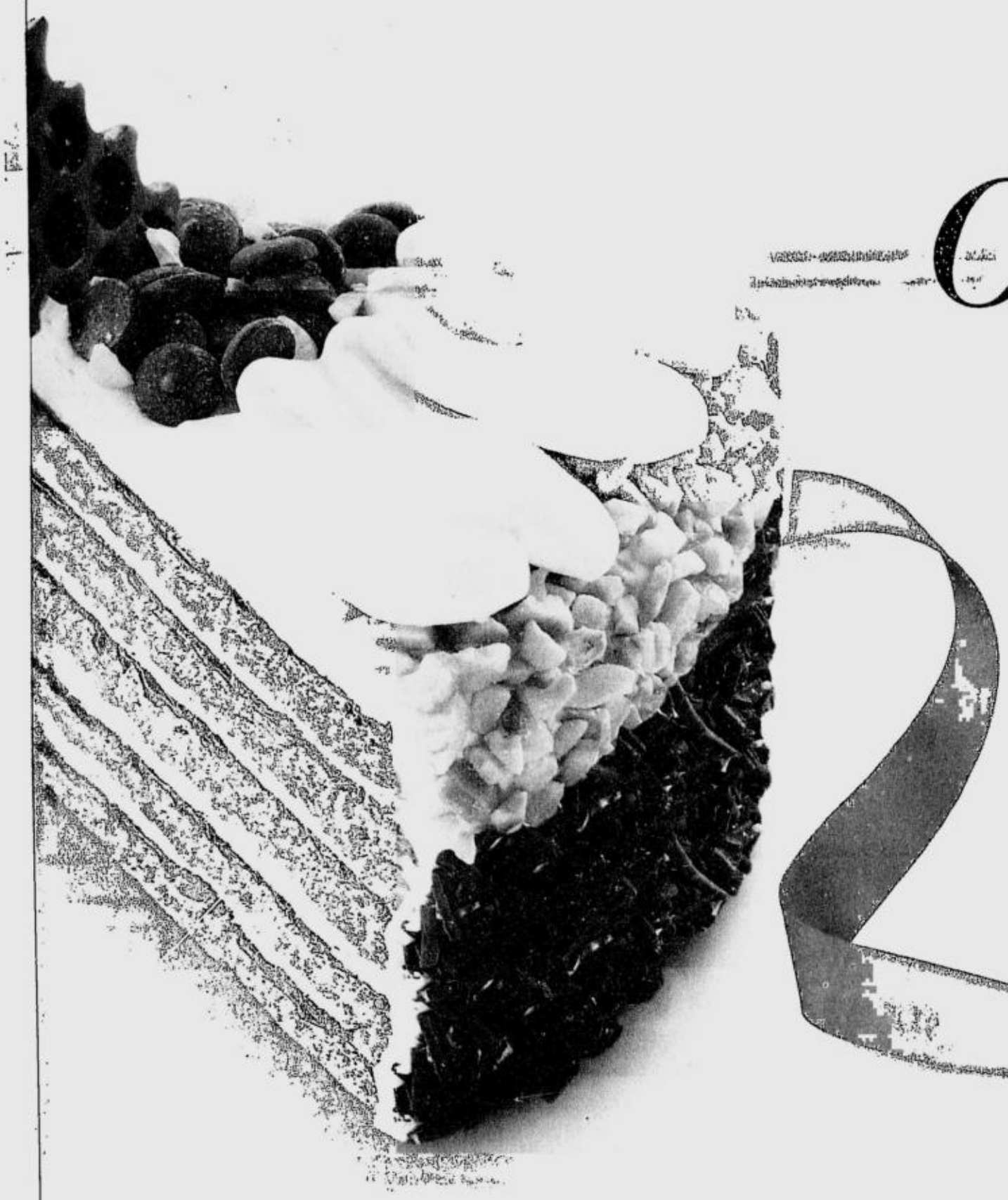
FEEL the fresh, breezy air of Tagaytay tomorrow afternoon, as hip promoter Soundsgood throws a Barrio Latino party overlooking the Taal Lake. Buses will depart from M Café at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to bring party-hungry Manileños to Taaleña restaurant. You'll be welcomed with tropical cocktails, live percussionists, and hot salsa beats by saxophonist Alvin Cornista (Nyko Maca+Playground), DJ Jay Lobo, and Latin Brother Soul. Call (0919) 396-8656 or visit soundsgood.ph.

HEAR three international silent films from Germany, Spain, and Japan at the 1st International Silent Film Festival at Cinema 2 of Greenbelt 3. The festival will open on Tuesday, Sept. 4, with "Adventures of Prince Achmed." Contemporary Filipino bands like Drip (Sept. 4), Wahijuara (Sept. 10), and Makiling Ensemble (Sept. 10) will score the silent classics on the spot! Call 817-0978.

Super Answers

CELEBRITIES are constantly bombarded with interviews. This time, Super turns the tables on them and gives them the chance to ask the question—and we want you—yes, you—to give them the answers. Last week, Diether Ocampo wanted to know, 'What are the four muscles grouped together and found deeply set and underlying on the back muscle?' Reggie Geraldez answered, 'They are the SITS muscle—the supraspinatus muscle, infraspinatus muscle, teres minor muscle and the subscapularis muscle.' This week, Audrey H... wants to know, 'Is there ... on other planets?' E-mail your answers to super@inquirer.com.ph with the subject heading 'super answers.' Your Super answer will be printed next week.



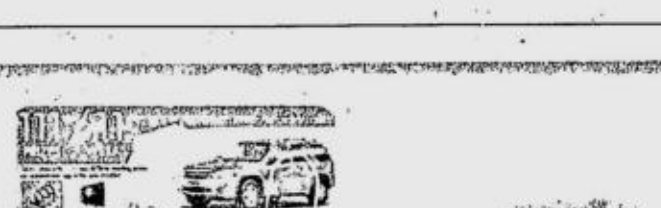


Now, more Oooohs, more Aaaahhs.

Chocolate Marjolaine, made better

Give in to layers and layers of meringue wafers made more crisp, each wrapped in the lusciousness of more chocolate and nestled between more helpings of exquisite praline cream. Now, you have more reasons to celebrate!

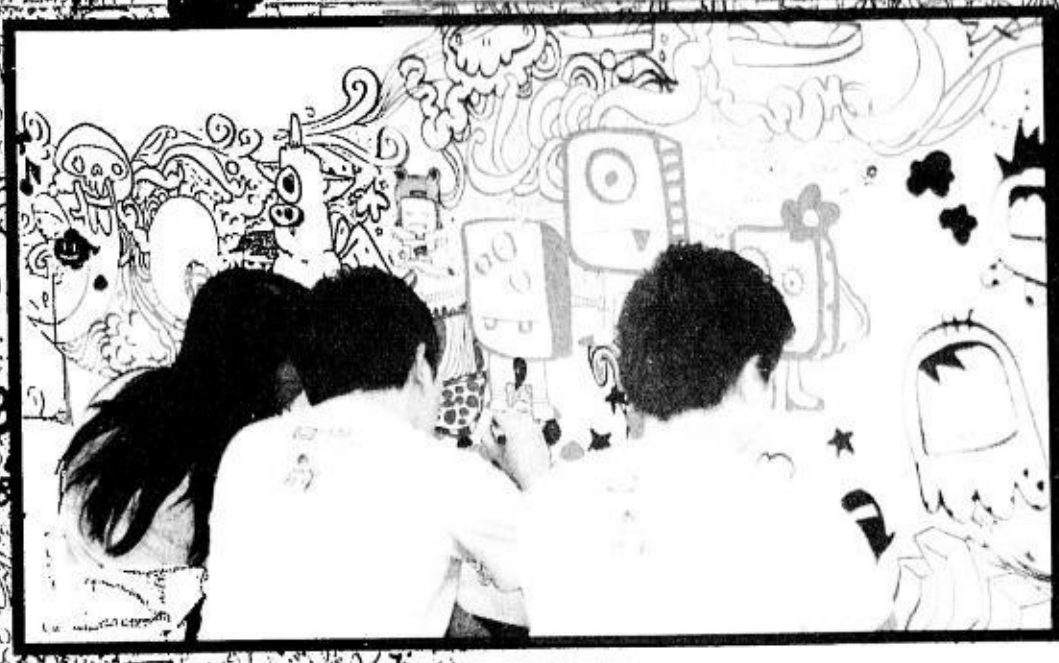
Whatever the celebration, It's more beautiful with a Red Ribbon



HP Prize for 7 Weeks
100 iPod Shuffles | 10 Nokia N95 Cell Phones | Philips LCD TV
Grand Prize | Mazda 3 | Mazda 6 | Mazda Tribute

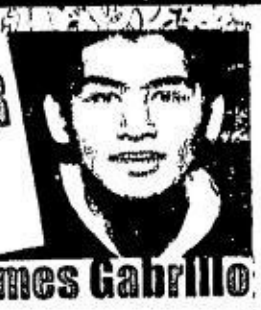
©2007 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. The HP Contact Center is available Mondays thru Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Discover Sarah on Sunday!
sunday INQUIRER magazine



This is how they doodle

In the age of new media and cut-and-paste aesthetics come eight friends who simply doodle



THUNDER ROAD

James Gabrillo

I SOMETIMES FEEL LIKE living in the 21st century is a sham. Where are the robot assistants, food pills, and flying cars we were promised? In my grade school science textbook, I recall seeing illustrations of what classrooms in this decade would supposedly look like: smiling students sitting down with things on their heads that look like buckets that had light-bulbs installed on them. Where are these cool kids typing on imaginary keyboards? Where are the weird alien teachers?

While I'm scratching my head wondering what went wrong, eight doodlers collectively called WeeWillDoodle are busy making their futuristic visions of one-eyed monsters, egg-shaped creatures, and tiny ninjas a reality, one doodle at a time.

And it all began with a piece of scratch paper that was passed around for each of the team members' doodling pleasure. Realizing the group's potential after a few doodling sessions, Nelz Yumul came up with the idea to formally create a team. He came up with the name WeeWillDoodle as well.

Beginning and end

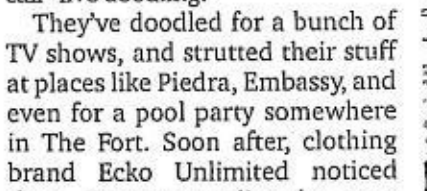
While setting up their first exhibit at F+art Gallery, they figured that it would be boring to just look at cartolina doodles so they put up 50+ feet of craft paper creating this giant space filled with their imaginative creations. The spectators were all amused and the exhibit was an awesome success. From then on, the team started getting invites to parties and events to do what they call "live doodling."

They've doodled for a bunch of TV shows, and strutted their stuff at places like Piedra, Embassy, and even for a pool party somewhere in The Fort. Soon after, clothing brand Ecko Unlimited noticed them. It now supplies the team with the materials that they use.

With eight core members, WeeWillDoodle shares that in the effort of creating individual signature images, they face the big challenge of trying to connect each random doodle to one another.

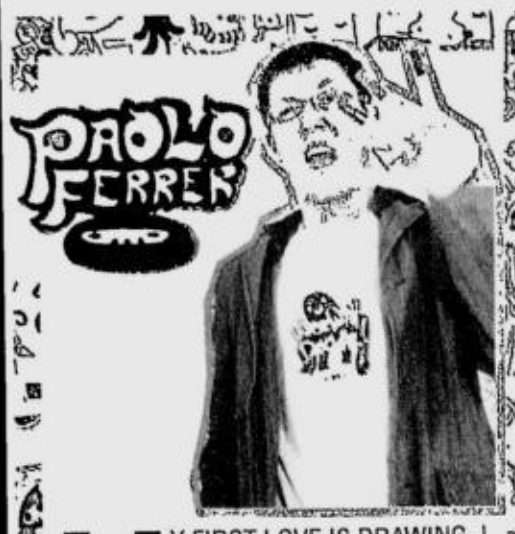
It's chaotic at first but the team's end goal is to always create a sense of agreement among all the pieces. "We get better and better at achieving this harmony thing because the longer we work together, the better we adjust to each of our distinct styles. Our satisfaction comes from seeing random unconnected images slowly take the shape of one unified doodle," they tell me.

THIS/ D2



Shakey's
Carbonara Supreme
for only
Single ₱95*
Platter ₱225*
*exclusive of delivery & service charges
DELIVERY HOTLINE 77-777
If it's late, It's FREE!
for Metro Manila only
Major Credit Cards now accepted for food delivery.

©2007 Concepts Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.



MY FIRST LOVE IS DRAWING. I was drawing before I could write down my name. I am deeply into graphic novels, pop culture trends, and a little bit of pre-hispanic Philippine culture. I was a Literature major at DLSU. After getting into the broadcasting industry I "turned my back" on drawing, thinking it was just a childhood luxury that I needed to outgrow. I now work for GMA 7's New Media Inc. as a writer. I only recently went back to drawing and it feels like being reunited with a long lost lover.

iDoodle it like crazy

Privately, there's no "one thing" that I always doodle. I just try to set whatever image I have in my head free. Mostly I draw stories that I have in my head.

Creative influences

Jose Rizal, F. Sionil Jose, Francisco Coching, Paul Pope, Hiroaki Samura, Danny Boyle, Jeff Noon and Neil Gaiman.

On passion for his art

Your actions reflect how passionate you are about something and I haven't really done anything for art ... yet. Maybe someday I'll earn the title of "artist," but for now, *nagfi*feeling artist *lang po ako.*

He will doodle

It helps me focus and I sometimes get lost in it, like my brain is possessed or it's running on autopilot. Doodling is practice, it's a prerequisite so I can get better at drawing and eventually create something bigger and grander that'll help make the world a better place.

I'M A GRAPHIC DESIGNER AND AN illustrator. I love to make hand-sewn stuff like dolls, notebooks, etc. I'm an origamist-wannabe. I still want to learn sculpture and printmaking. I'm a traveler who seeks new adventures, but I don't know how to swim. I was a finance person in my past life, am an artist today, and will be a musician in my next life.

iDoodle it like crazy

Surreal creatures, like the vampire mushroom which I almost always doodle.

Creative influences

It's a hodgepodge. I love Manet, Dali, Klimt, Pepper Roxas, Jason Moss, Cochran, Gary Baseman, Marcel Duchamp, Gaston Caba, Conrad Raquel, Loobylu, and Mariano Ching.

On passion for her art

It's my first love—my second degree, but still my first love.

She will doodle

As a graphic designer, this unique creative impulse helps inspire my creative thinking process. Every design I make starts with doodling. It's a good indication of how deep design aesthetics have affected me.

I HAVE A PET COW. CUMULUSES amaze me and make me hungry. My body is composed of 70 percent coke light, 20 percent iron and 10percent sugar. Mr. Right Brain is my bestest friend.

iDoodle it like crazy

Cows.

Creative influences

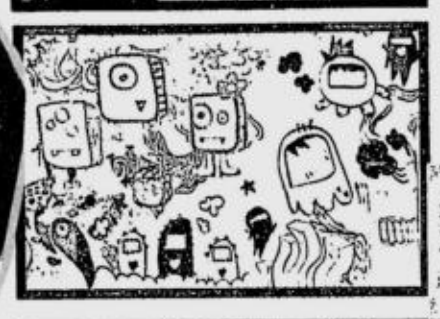
P. Rand, R. Arnheim, J. Maeda, H. Matsuishi and Mr. Rainbow.

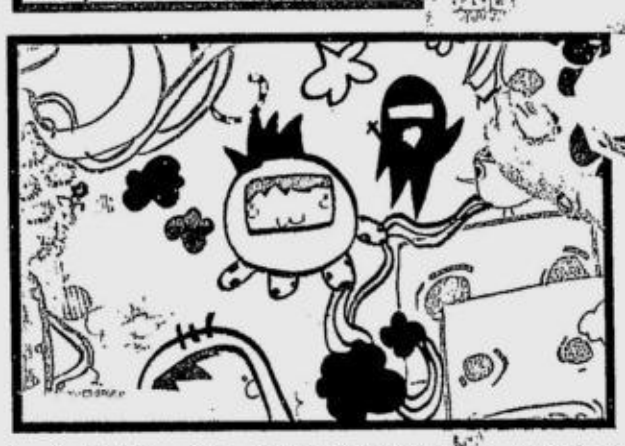
On passion for his art

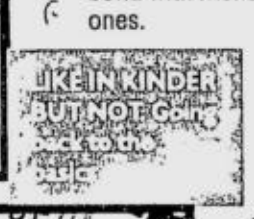
I eat paper for breakfast.

He will doodle

Doodling is my other half.







I AM ALWAYS PASSIONATE ABOUT art and design. I am self-taught but I got further experience through my job and from my artist-friends. I get inspired by anything, it might be as simple as a drop of rain or as complex as the cross-section of an airplane. I started establishing myself through my digital paintings through my art alter ego, "Darkbulb." I introduced the idea of having a doodle show after my last solo exhibit to contrast my digital artwork with traditional doodles. I coined the name WeeWillDoodle. The double Es signify fun, which is key to our work.

iDoodle it like crazy

I doodle cute monsters, chicks, innards, rainbows, skulls and poop.

Creative influences

Ashley Wood, Dave McKean, Paul Pope, Jon Burgerman, Pete Fowler, Electrolychee ... *um* ... children's books, comics, movies, vinyl toys, calamares, chocolate coated raisins, my BabyChubz ... I could go on and on ...

On passion for his art

Four letters: V. E. R. Y.

He will doodle

It is a way to relieve stress from the drudgery of life. And a good way to bond with friends and to make new ones.

I'M A WEB DESIGNER BY DAY and a party animal by night. Nah, I'm just one of those regular guys that would just rather stay at home. I've been doing this web design thing for four years now and I'm still looking for other ways to expand my creativity. Right now I'm really into creating a toy line of my own characters. My dream job would be to work as a cartoonist or a concept artist at some cartoon company.

iDoodle it like crazy

I'm fascinated with aliens and cosmic intergalactic stuff, and oh yeah, the black clouds.

Creative influences

Mars-1, Tim Burton, Pete Fowler and Nathan Jurevicius. Locally, I look up to Electrolychee, and Nelz Yumul.

On passion for his art

Does staying up late count? And also spending too much on damn expensive designer toys.

He will doodle

Doodling has always been a part o me. Ever since I was small there's no notebook that I didn't doodle on! Whenever I'm bored or stressed out, there's always a blank paper for the taking.

PHOTOS BY DAE LEE

I'M CURRENTLY WORKING AS A graphic designer for GMA 7. I wasn't really a graphic designer when I was still a student since I studied as a computer programmer that does GUI's (Graphical User Interface). But I guess I just followed my passion for art that I've had since I was in third grade. I also make my own music from time to time which also gives me the drive to draw and to make new characters. I'm really not good at naming my characters because I come up with cheesy ones like "Headset Man" or "Egg Boy." But I'm doing my best. I have this new character named "Meetop the OctoNkey" (a cross between an octopus and a monkey).

iDoodle it like crazy

Hybrid animals and cute creatures.

Creative influences

Andrew Bell and Frank Kozik.

On passion for his art

Very passionate. I'm actually on the process of covering the white walls of my room with doodles.

He will doodle

It's some kind of a stress reliever. It takes out all the pressures of the day because I get to interpret the "bad vibes" into things that I can't create when I'm too relaxed.

Castañeda

DODLING AS EARLY AS I CAN REMEMve my first doodle on my parent's wall ever painted over and my mom still k people pad paper doodles. I'm a toy adot doodling, I surf the net for urban vinyl s. I'm a multimedia developer.

e crazy

creatures.

ences

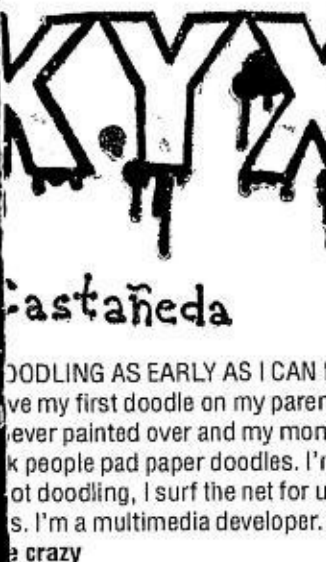
Kathie Olivas, Micheal Lau, Mad, my fels, and my grandpa.

r his art

I try to doodle with other artists as much as I can. This way I get to develop my style for the art further.

He will doodle

Doodling relaxes me, it takes my mind of work. Oftentimes I find inspiration and ideas in my doodles. Also, aside from playing with my kids, we also spend quality time doodling.



This is how they doodle

From page D1

In this feature, we gave the eight artists of WeeWillDoodle a blank white wall and told them to do whatever they wanted with it. The result is a colorful mishmash of randomness that has a bizarre balance and a certain brand of vibrant energy. No one artist can pull off the many varying line weights and colors that one sees in their combined doodles.

Multihued perspectives

The team acknowledges the end result to each member's state of mind while creating the work. "The collective mindset is to just have fun and let the creative energies flow without taking things too seriously. It is, after all, just doodling," they say.

As the team goes along, they are continually discovering that differing amounts of restraint and planning are needed to achieve the sense of harmony that's unique to their work. "We used to doodle without any planning, filling up the 'canvas' with no general layout or shape in mind. We're getting tired of that look so now we're experimenting with layouts and borders that dictate the general shape of the piece. The layout may be planned but the individual elements remain spontaneous," Paolo Ferrer shares.

Doodle or die

Each new doodling project for WeeWillDoodle is an adventure. Seeing how the piece will turn out excites the whole team. They even let the audience members participate in their sessions to add to the thrill. For one segment on TV, the team went to an elementary school in Tondo and encouraged the kids to doodle, allowing their creativity to flow.

"Kids are the undisputed masters of doodling, they have so much energy and so many raw ideas that are free from all the insecurities and limitations that we adults have. It was so much fun to draw with them. Once we got things started, we couldn't stop them from drawing all over our tarpaulins. The characters they made were off the wall! *Anlalabo! Ang gagaling nila!*," the team recalls.

The improvement each member has undergone since they all started is also fascinating. They find themselves more creative now, with their drawing powers much stronger, and their team spirit more solid.

As for the future, the team admits that they really have nothing concrete planned out. Like their doodles, they're doing everything spontaneously. As long as people show interest in what they do, they'll continue to show up for their live doodle shows. Either individually or as a group, they plan to turn egg people, hybrid animals, and talking TV sets into reality until the end of time.

The six guys and two girls of WeeWillDoodle are not seeking to be cutting-edge and forward-thinking and all other species of hyphenated adjectives that depict how new-fangled they are. They're just having complete and utter fun.

Check out weewilldoodle.multiply.com.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS

A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT

PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR

MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL

LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO

DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS

KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA

MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO

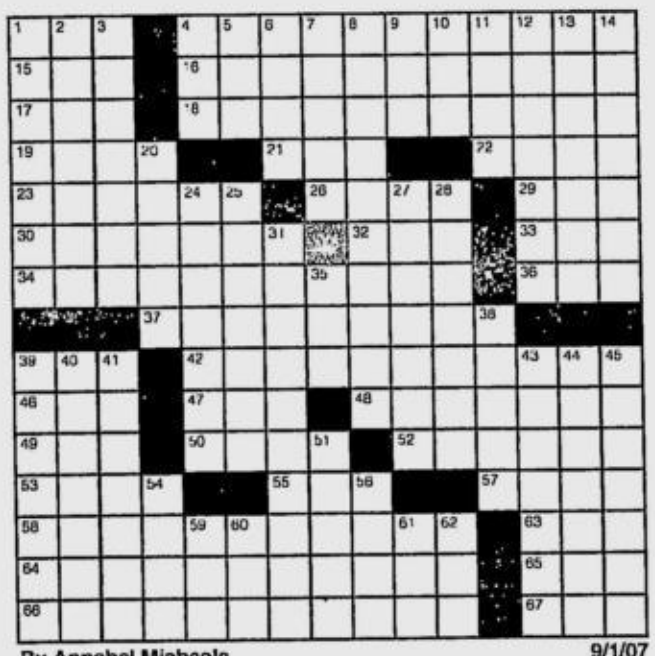
TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING

BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON

DAILY CROSSWORD



By Annabel Michaels
Williamsburg, VA

9/1/07

ACROSS
1 Sault __ Marie
4 Martial arts
15 Fabric border
16 Civil rights supporter
17 Music genre
18 Sat in the front passenger seat
19 Decorated with frosting
21 But for Brutus
22 Architect Saarinen
23 Yacht basin
26 Tex-Mex sandwich
29 Meat cut
30 Adage
32 Sickly
33 Adjective-forming suffix
34 Aerodynamic
36 Chemical suffix
37 True-blue
39 Health resort
42 Ran into
46 PC monitor element
47 Beat follower?
48 Ocean motion with the wind
49 __ up (angry)
50 Give lip to
52 Stop by
53 Agenda entry
55 Homburg or fedora
57 Haves and have-__
58 Having no pity
63 Adversary
64 Relative of recycles
65 Resembling: suff.
66 Foresees
67 Porker's residence

DOWN
1 Pip-squeaks
2 Serving trolley
3 Type of penguin
4 Sun. talk
5 Self-regard
6 Fellas
7 Collection of warships
8 Haughty
9 Afr. nation
10 __ Schwarz (toy store)
11 Art Deco illustrator
12 West African nation
13 Of lizards
14 Aggrandize
20 Gainer and swan
24 Makes tidy
25 Former USSR part
27 Scrubbed
28 Retiree
31 Outcast of the family
35 Words at the altar
38 Range of the Rockies
39 Gemini astronaut Wally
40 Twelve-year-old, e.g.
41 Endeavor
43 Exorbitant prices
44 Delete
45 In a concentrated manner
51 Enchilada topping
54 Memento __ (reminder of mortality)
56 Type of tube or case
59 Fierce mythical bird
60 Half of B.S.
61 Bishop's territory
62 Sound of a slow leak

Friday's Puzzle Solved

S	W	A	P	■	P	L	A	N	■	M	E	D	I	A
O	A	H	U	■	R	A	N	T	■	A	D	I	O	S
W	R	A	P	P	E	D	T	H	I	N	G	S	U	P
■	■	■	L	E	E	S	■	S	U	E	■	■	■	■
A	R	M	B	A	N	D	■	W	R	E	S	T	L	E
L	E	A	R	N	S	■	G	O	A	L	■	R	I	M
A	D	H	O	C	■	S	U	R	E	■	P	I	C	S
■	T	O	O	K	O	N	E	S	L	E	A	V	E	■
L	A	U	D	■	N	E	S	T	■	A	L	I	N	E
A	P	T	■	F	E	E	S	■	C	R	E	A	S	E
D	E	S	P	A	I	R	■	H	A	N	D	L	E	R
■	■	■	A	I	L	■	C	O	R	E	■	■	■	■
N	E	V	E	R	L	O	O	K	E	D	B	A	C	K
O	N	E	A	L	■	O	P	U	S	■	A	L	O	E
T	E	E	N	Y	■	H	E	M	S	■	R	I	N	G

(C)2007 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

9/1/07

HOROSCOPE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have a kind of inner nobility. You're proud, quietly dramatic and above all, independent! You're resourceful about knowing how to market your talents or go after what you want. You can be excellent in business administration, politics or education. You're a natural leader. Your year ahead will open up new paths in different directions. Be bold about exploring them.
Birthdate of: Lily Tomlin, actress/comedian; C.J. Cherryh, author; Seiji Ozawa, symphony conductor.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): A major planetary change that is occurring now will usher in a three-year period where you will be working hard! Get ready.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Many of you will have increased responsibilities with children in the next few years. All of you are wondering what to be when you grow up (regardless of your age).

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Even if you moved recently, in the next few years, you will establish a solid base or anchor in the world. You want to create a secure home for yourself.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Job changes and residential moves are likely for most of you in the next few years. This will occur even if you think there is no chance of it.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): For a number of reasons, you'll be giving much thought to your values in the next few years. Basically, you want to know what really matters in life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Saturn is entering your sign now. (The last time it was there was from 1978-80.) This is a time of entirely new beginnings!

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): In the next few years, you'll let go of people, places and possessions. You will get rid of what is no longer useful or relevant. Time to lighten up!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Your challenge in the next few years will be about how to relate to groups, and yet at the same time, maintain your independence and integrity. (Interesting.)

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You are entering a time of harvest. In the next few years, some of your dreams will come true. However, you also will discover what is not working.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Increased travel or education will benefit you in the next few years as you enter a time of preparation. You're getting ready for a career peak about three years from now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): It's important to learn how to stand on your own two feet. You might get less help from others in the next few years. This will simply show you how resilient and independent you are.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): It's a testing time for partnerships in the next few years. Good partnerships will endure; poor partnerships will probably dissolve.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

8								3
		4	5		3	6		
	1						8	
	9			1			7	
			2		9			
	4			7			1	
	8						4	
		3	7		5	8		
4								2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/01

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

2	9	5	1	6	8	7	4	3
3	1	8	4	9	7	5	6	2
7	4	6	3	2	5	8	1	9
8	5	2	6	7	3	1	9	4
4	3	9	2	8	1	6	7	5
1	6	7	5	4	9	3	2	8
9	2	3	8	1	6	4	5	7
6	8	4	7	5	2	9	3	1
5	7	1	9	3	4	2	8	6

Difficulty Level ★★★★

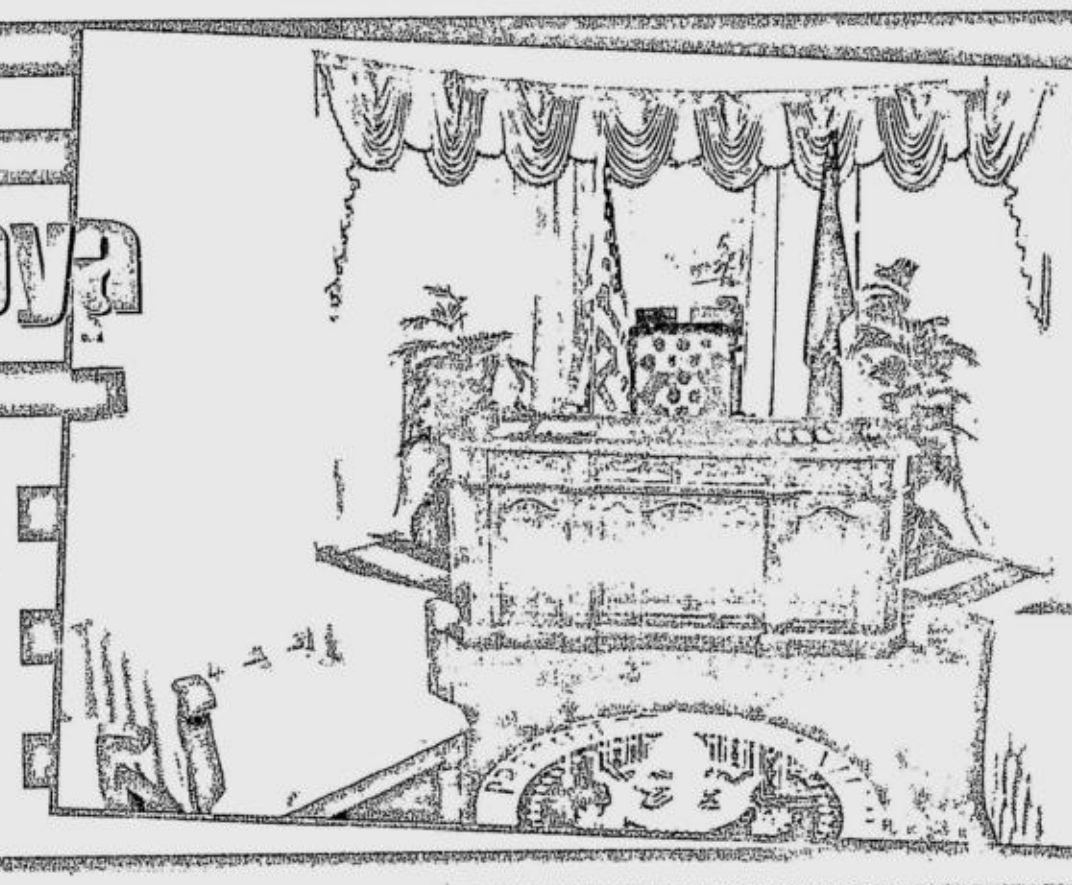
SUPER FRESH!

Space Invaders

Suite Dreams, Dubya

By Juana R. Manahan
Photos by Joseph Pascual

Cool or kitschy, elegant or eccentric, world class to downright weird, the Super team wants to find out your interior motive. Invite us in to showcase an eye-catching sanctuary and we'll be coming to crash at your space



KNEEL TO THE CHIEF. The padded presidential desk is the Oval Office's most popular piece of furniture.

THE FIRST TIME I WALKED into a motel, I was 14 years old. It was an intriguing suite, one that had a round bed and a heart-shaped jacuzzi, with an interesting color scheme and a magical panel of lights that did disco tricks. Even 10 years ago, Victoria Court was already ahead of itself in creating such quirky fantasy rooms.

But before you get ahead of yourself, I was there because Victoria Court was the sponsor for a fashion show I was doing in one of these trendy Malate bars, back when the likes of Adam de Lumen and Cecile Zamora were just starting out in the Philippine fashion scene.

I found myself in a room full of models (including a teenage Sarah Meier, right before she burst into the modeling stratosphere), staring in absolute wonderment at this motel room that served as our dressing room for the show.

These days, Victoria Court is moving past its kitschy appeal and is eager to shake off the image of a kinky motel. Of course, one of its most popular rooms is the Austin Powers suite, which features a round bed, a cage, and red lights. But the newest addition to their private suites aims to be at par with first class standards: the Oval Office, located in their Pasig branch. Barely 3 months old, the suite has already made back most of its million-peso investment.

Upon entering, a gallery of US presidents greet you—George Bush, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton. The "gallery" is, of course, the garage, where customers can maintain their privacy without having to step out into the glaring light of recognition. From there, a plush blue carpet leads you up to the suite.

The Oval Office is probably one of the most well-documented rooms in history, being a place of power and authority. Entering this replica gives one that same feeling—if only for two minutes. Luxurious, overstuffed couches in blue and white stripes and a carved coffee table make up the seating area. The president's desk, copied meticulously on every detail, sits imposingly at the back of the room, overlooking a view of the "White House" lawn.

The leather presidential chair was also copied down to every stitch. The Seal of the President of the United States is made of backlit plexiglass that sits in the middle of the room, while a molded plaster version (which they obviously put a lot of effort into creating) decorates the ceiling. A state-of-the-art flat screen TV, with a DVD player, is situated above a mock fireplace.

While the bookshelves (holding books with the names of all the past US presidents) try to add a touch of class, the effect reminds me of Will Ferrell's character in "Anchorman," when he would say "I have many leather bound books!" to attract the ladies back to his apartment. This detail plays closer to that appeal, rather than the real dignity of the White House.

Having said that, the Oval Office does not feel like a motel room, although the scent of disinfectant does sting the nostrils slightly. The most quirky detail of this room is the Code Red button on the left-hand side of the presidential table, which, when pressed, starts a blinding series of laser and

SPACE/ E4

Raising healthy kids while your spouse is away

Raising kids is not an easy task. What more if your spouse is working abroad? There are bills to pay, work to attend to, and a home to maintain. The good news is, not all things in life are hard to do, like keeping your children healthy.

Your children's future is important. That's why you need to take care of their health so that they grow up bright and strong. This can only be achieved with a healthy diet. Eating food with Zinc and Iron is a good way to start.

Zinc is an important nutrient in keeping the skin smooth and healthy. It speeds up the healing of wounds so they don't develop into scars, which is perfect for kids because they enjoy running and playing outdoors.

Zinc also keeps the body healthy inside out. It helps in the production of white blood cells which fight all forms of infection in the body, making it stronger.

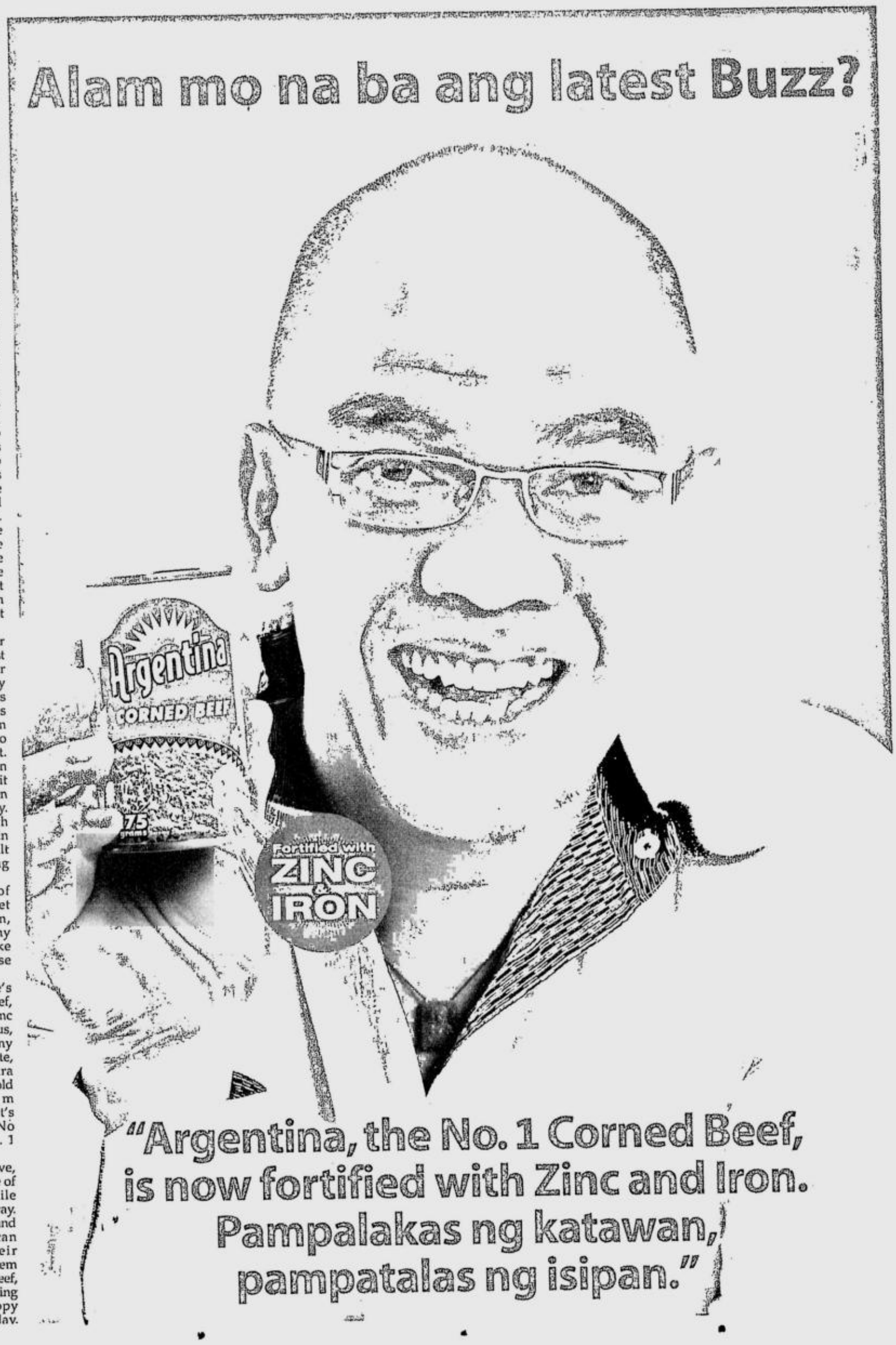
Iron, on the other hand, is one of the most important nutrients our body needs, especially the young ones. This is so because it carries oxygen to help in energy production, so children become alert.

What's more, Iron sharpens the mind as it helps distribute oxygen throughout the body. Lack of Iron (which means little oxygen in the brain) could result in a slower thinking process.

With the range of benefits you can get from Zinc and Iron, there's no reason why you shouldn't make your kids get these nutrients.

Good thing there's Argentina Corned Beef, now fortified with Zinc and Iron. It's delicious, and available in many variants: Regular, Lite, Hot and Spicy, Extra Long Shreds, and Gold Label Premium Corned Beef. And it's affordable, too! No wonder it's the no. 1 corned beef!

As you always have, continue taking care of your children while your loved one is away. Make them healthy and strong, so they can really enjoy their childhood. Serve them Argentina Corned Beef, your partner in keeping your children happy and healthy everyday.



Non-hostile takeover

By Wanggo Gallaga

APPARENTLY, YOU CAN ACtually take over the human race without having to be violent. "The Invasion" offers us a different look at how alien takeovers can be done. After all, we're so used to movies like "Independence Day," "Transformers" and "War of the Worlds" that if there isn't a single explosion big enough to destroy three city blocks of an American city, it's not a real invasion.

"The Invasion" is a remake of earlier films based on the novel by Jack Finney. In this version, a space ship reentering Earth's orbit crashes in the US and in its debris carries an alien species that slowly takes over the world virally—like the flu. Slowly, people start to change. They start to lose their emotions, they become lifeless and cold. Witnessing all of this is Nicole Kidman who plays Carol Bennell, a psychiatrist who begins to witness a very creepy and silent invasion. Directed by Oliver Hirschbiegel of "Das Experiment" fame, the film follows Carol's point-of-view, showing us at the beginning a world filled with chaos and rife with emotions and then, later on, devoid of it.

As usual, we are treated to fantastic acting by Nicole Kidman and we've got an able director in Hirschbiegel. The movie is quite scary but its by-the-numbers storytelling ruins the pacing making the movie too fast in some parts and too slow in others. But it's definitely an eye-opener in the way we've come to know and what we expect from our usual alien invading the Earth films.

Invasions should be more like this: Quiet, relatively slow and peaceful. In fact, it's really very good for the environment. Burning cities is really bad for the atmosphere as it contributes greatly to the greenhouse effect. The mobilization of planes and tanks and trucks would just use up more fossil fuels. In "The Invasion," the most hostile act of incursion is being vomited on. Not a pretty sight and probably not a very pleasant experience but at least it doesn't have harmful byproducts that could make global warming be any worse than it already is.

Imagine the world after Spielberg's alien invasion film "War of the Worlds." Imagine the aftermath: All the fuel that would be needed to operate the construction vehicles to fix up the city, imagine the methane emissions that will be produced by the dead bodies left out in the open and everything else it would take to heal the broken world. Can you imagine how much environmental damage was caused when the aliens blew up the White House in "Independence Day?"

In "The Invasion," most of the environmental issues are really caused by the humans who are freaking out that they get all riled up and try to defend themselves. Nicole Kidman takes several cars and drives them like a maniac through the streets, causing property damage and wasting a sh*t load of fuel (unless her car is a hybrid but I don't remember Mercedes making a hybrid version). Hypothetically, when one loses all emotions, there is a greater chance of environment conservation. No more partying out at night, what for? You don't feel joy. All the aliens seem to enjoy low lighting and no one is ever rushing. People walk at a slow pace. No stepping on the gas to speed up. That's all ways of conserving energy and our fuel supply, right?

With the impact of the documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" rallying everyone up to the cause of the planet, it's strange that there is still a war going on in the Middle East. Everyone talks about the pollutants released into the air by standard car engines and air conditioners but no one ever seems to mention the environmental dangers of the war in Iraq. Maybe "The Invasion" is really a political movie disguised as a scary sci-fi film with hopes to subvert people from acts of wanton destruction? Or maybe they just didn't have the budget of Stephen Spielberg?

There's a lot to be said about the benefits of invading someone virally, definitely better for the planet. But considering how much "Independence Day" and "War of the Worlds" made in comparison to "The Invasion," which critics have praised for being scary and panned for its weak storyline, it seems we still want our Extra Terrestrial sorties to have big explosions and high casualty rates. It is definitely horrifying to see the people around you all change into zombie-like versions of themselves, but it's definitely a relief to know that once the hero discovers a way to kick some serious alien butt, global warming isn't going to be any worse than before.

NICOLE, fight the seven signs of aging!

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PHILS.

WHAT *wala nang load?*

No-ing be

By Katrina A. Holigores

GREEN-MINDED THIS MONTH? WITH cleanup top of mind for the country and the rest of the world, everyone is interested in a little environmental detoxification. There are those who get swept up in the (global) heat of the moment and there are others who have imprinted an all around green card in their consciousness. Preachy as it may sound personal actions will still set the overall pace of what can be done for the wellbeing of the world around. Being Filipino, and having been brought up to be as polite and accommodating as possible, I find it a near impossibility to say no to things even if I know that refusal would be the wiser option. The Butterfly Effect, which is now a familiar term explains how the flutter of a tiny butterfly wing can cause a tsunami. Personal decisions although called personal still affect those who surround you. What you do with your life will impact other lives, so every now and then take note that replying in the negative (not thinking negative) can be beneficial in more ways than one.

We stress ourselves out by over promising and overcompensating; we become too "nice" to be truthful and instead of turning down we accept ... and accept ... and soon there is no more space left for anything, or anyone else. Pretty lonely existence in a life that is about to burst at the seams.

No trespassing

Experts (including supervillain gazillionaire Lex Luthor) say land will be the most precious commodity at the rate we're destroying what we currently live and die on. Our physical health and well-being is just as precious. The terms we are what we think and we are what we eat makes more sense now than it did 20 years ago. There are less and less excuses to blame ignorance for dietary and fitness options, but this doesn't mean it makes it easier to say no when temptation on a grease filled platter is shoved in your face. Saying no more often doesn't make you a wet blanket at

Be an Inquirer.

FIST OFF. Put your hands up in the air.

PEEP OF THE WEEK. Sadako spotted at Embassy

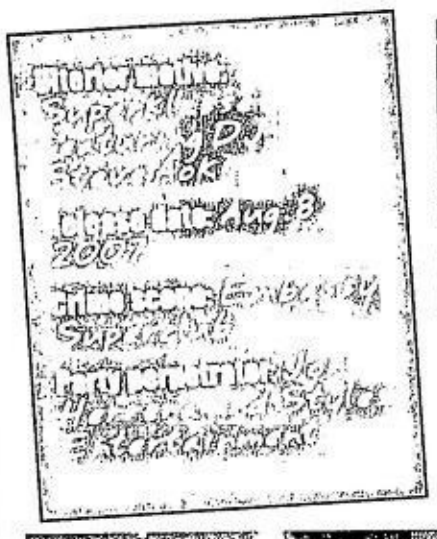
SINO SI CAT? Ornussa Cadness is purr-fect.

PEEPS Crowd control

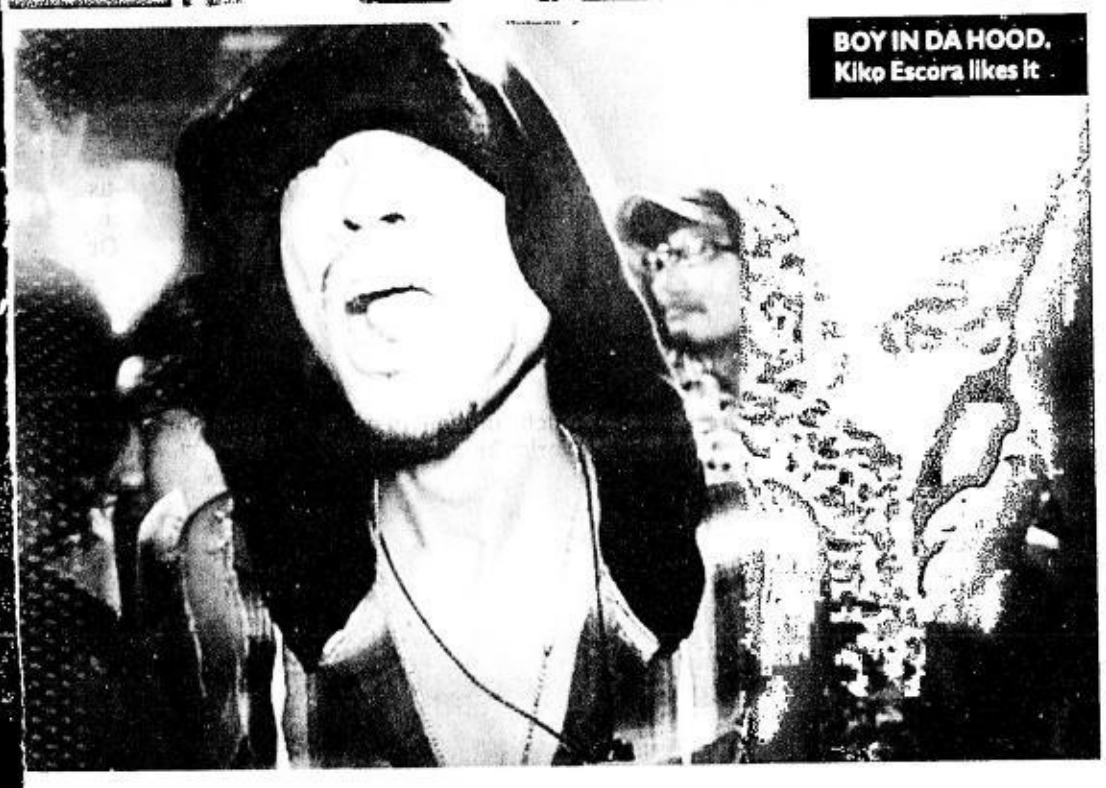
Photos by Jujiin Samonte

GANDA ... ng hat ni Sarah Meier.

CUFF AND SYRUP. Hello Anne Curtis



MR. MIYAGI and Katz Tuason-Cruz



BOY IN DA HOOD. Kiko Escora likes it

CURL INTERRUPTED. Mich Dulce caught for red tape

BRENT international is cool.

tter

a social event but if that's what you feel when you shake your head instead of nod it when you're with friends, then go take a closer look at your social surroundings. This applies to your work and family environment too. Not all relationships are productive and if you have an eye on the future, choosing growth (even if it means painful partings) means having to put your foot down and meaning the "N" word and sticking to it. If you don't want to do it, say so, if you can't do it (for whatever reason) an "I will try" is a lie. Do some spring cleaning in your own life and see if you even have space to be able to say yes.

First refusal

Knowing what you want is a great first step in your personal cleanup but also knowing what you don't want can be just as effective. I'm not saying to close yourself off from trying out new experiences or responsibilities, you just don't have to do them all at the same time. Clogging up your life can be avoided by a little segregation of what can be done, what can be done later, and what should not be done at all. Saying no today can always leave space for a much happier (and sincere) yes tomorrow.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Whoops!

Last week's cover was NOT Lino Cayetano nor was it Devon Aoki before she discovered threading. Wait. You already knew that. What you didn't know was who took those supercool photos of DJ Steve Aoki. The creds go out to (drumroll please) ...

Cover photos: **Tom Epperson**
Styling: **Rosario Herrera of StyleLab**
T-Shirt: **Free Gold Watch at Greyone Social, Power Plant Mall**
Jeans: **Lee X-Line**
Event photos: **Daniel Tan, Willy Saw, and Jujiin Samonte**

We promise not to do it again.

DEFACTO INDUSTRY

SUPER SELECTIONS!

In-JEAN-uity

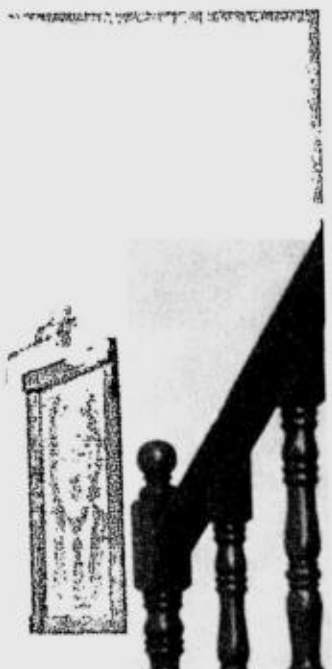
WE SPEND OUR LIVES LOOKING for perfection. The perfect love, the perfect job, the perfect shade of lipstick. And of course, the perfect pair of jeans. Look no further, as we have discovered a supercool secret: Defacto custom made designer denim for everyone!!!

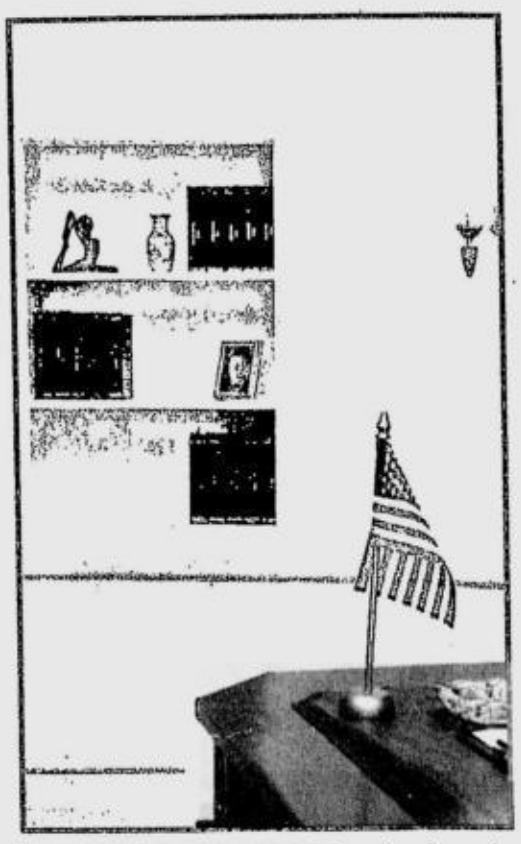
They urge all to "stand out in this pre-fabricated society." More on their mission: To provide you with an article of clothing distinctly your own. Each commissioned item will be custom made to your measurements. This gives the clothes a personalized hand-made feel, assuring you that each item will be one of a kind and at the same time it will be for the everyman, the icon and the rebel.

And the best thing about these custom-made jeans, they don't come with a hefty price tag.

Visit Defactory at Unit 112 G/F Mile Long Building Amorsolo cor Herrera Sts. Makati. Contact Tat at 09204291393 or Tanya 09178122529. Log on to www.de factory.multiply.com.

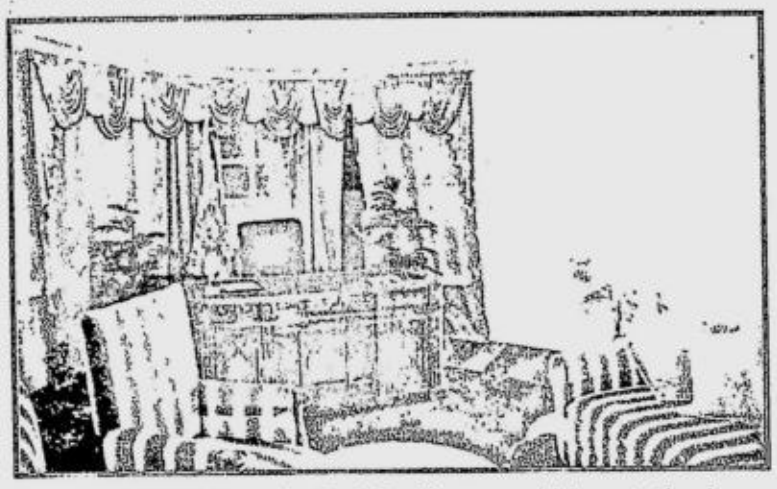
super





INTERN-AL KNOWLEDGE. Leather-bound books add a touch of class.

COMING THROUGH. Abraham Lincoln and Bill Clinton greet you as you drive into the discreet garage.



LIBERAL PARTY. Press the Code Red button and it's party time!

Space Invaders

From page E1

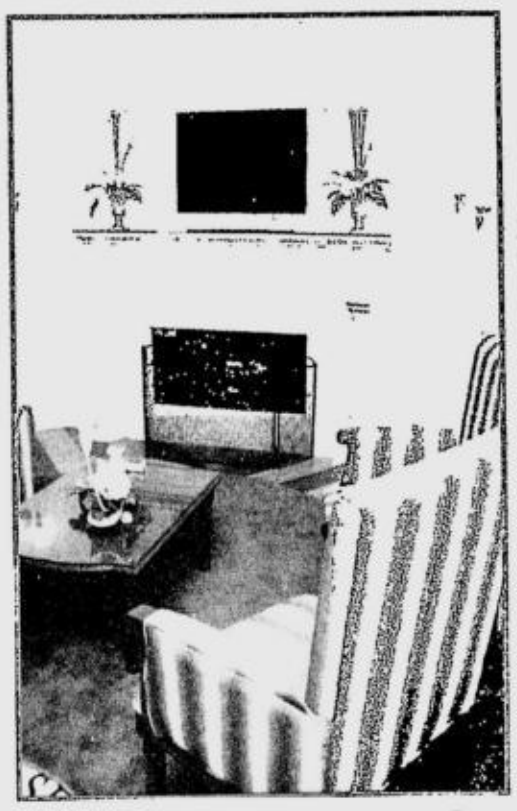
strobe lights, perfect for party mode.

Other impressive details were the antique phones installed in both the office and bedroom, although these "antique" phones are more from the period of Woodrow Wilson (think brass curly-cues of the 1920s) than George W. Bush's conference call-capable telephone units.

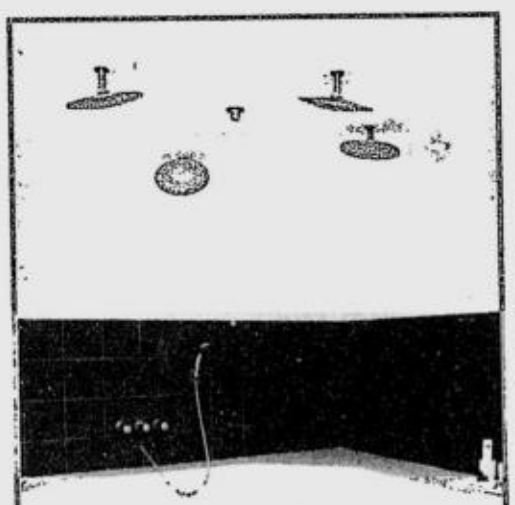
The bedroom comes with a king-size bed (not round), which is standard to all of Victoria Court's super suites. The combined smell of cigarettes and Lysol can be a bit overwhelming in the bedroom. The bathroom, however, has impressive features. A large jacuzzi sits under four rain shower heads (that's three more rain shower heads than one will find at any Aman resort!). No traces of weird motel room grime here, the bathrooms smell and sparkle clean.

The Victoria Court managers who toured me around explained their meticulous attention to detail and cleanliness. Due to its popularity, the room gets a total and complete general cleaning usually twice a day. Every square inch is scrubbed, especially the most frequently used piece of furniture—the presidential table!

A stay in the Oval Office is no laughing matter. The first five hours come out to P5,000. That's the same price you'd pay to stay overnight at a regular hotel. A 24-hour stay will cost you P10,000, again roughly the same price as checking into a Shangri-La. Only here, privacy is guaranteed with a discreet staff who don't ask for names and credit card guarantees, or require you to sign out after a stay. After all, with Victoria Court's ingenious hand signal system, five star service is a gesture away.

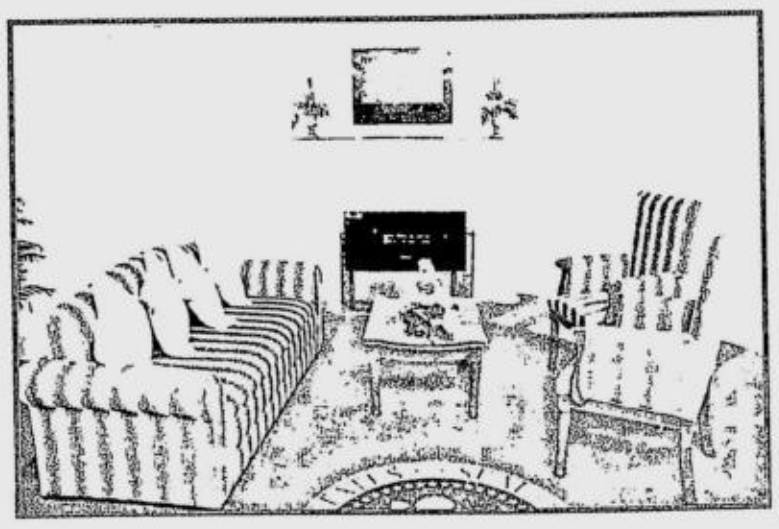


STATE OF AFFAIRS. A state-of-the-art flat screen TV sits atop a mock fireplace.



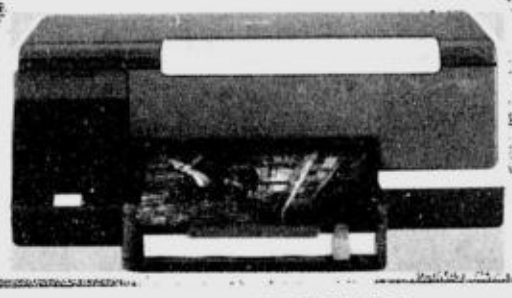
REIGN OF SHOWER. In the bathroom, a large jacuzzi sits under four rain shower heads.

SLEEP TIGHT. Bush will feel right at home in this plush bedroom with a king-size bed.



LEG ROOM. Luxurious, overstuffed couches in blue and white stripes make up the seating area.

SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS WITH HP



The HP OfficeJet Pro K5300 is perfect for small to medium-sized businesses. Its low cost per page and fast, high quality prints make this a great printer for any office that requires cost-efficient, high-volume printing. With the HP OfficeJet Pro K5300 you get laser quality text, photo quality prints and now great footwear. Get a free pair of Crocs when you buy the HP OfficeJet Pro K5300 and the other printers featured in this ad. Promotional offer has been extended to October 31, 2007. Now that's a business proposition that's hard to resist.

HP OFFICEJET PRO K5300

P5,990

High volume laser-quality printing at faster color speeds with a lower cost per page than most laser printers
- Up to 4800-optimized dpi color
- 4 individual inks and long life printheads
- 7500 pages monthly duty cycle
- High quality printing at up to 36 ppm black and 35 ppm colour (draft)

HP PHOTOSMART D5160

P5,990

- VERSATILE Everyday Printer - document / photo printing
- Fast printing speed at 31ppm black or 24ppm colour
- 4 X 6 inch print speed - as fast as 26 seconds
- CD / DVD direct printing capable
- Connectivity - pictbridge, bluetooth capability, and memory card slots

HP PHOTOSMART D7160

P12,590

- A4 print speed 32ppm colour / 31ppm black
- 4 X 6 inch print speed - as fast as 21 secs
- Connectivity - pictbridge, bluetooth capability, and memory card slots
- 2.4 inch colour graphic display
- Economical 6 individual ink cartridges - ideal for high volume photo and print texting

HP PHOTOSMART A516

P5,790

- Print snapshots from digital cameras and memory cards easily without a PC
- Built in 1.5 inch image display with HP Photosmart Express
- Optional bluetooth connectivity / pictbridge compatible
- Print 4 x 6 coloured photos in as fast as 45 secs

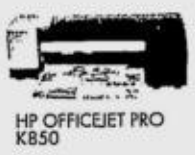
PROMOTION MECHANICS:

1. Buy any of the participating HP Printers (D5160^, D7160^, PSA516^, K5300, K5400dn, K850, DJ460cb^, C3180^, C4180^, C5180, C6180, OJ4355^, OJ5610^, L7380 & L7580) from August 01 to October 31, 2007 and receive a FREE Crocs Footwear (Choose between Beach & Athens II Design)
   NOTE: ^ means only applicable to Beach design
2. Please see flyers and stickers on boxes for details or contact:
   Yoaps Corporation
   Telephone No: (02) 7532558;
   Fax No: (02) 845-1634;
   Email Address: hp_synergy@yoaps.com;
   Office Address: 2306 Herrera Tower, Rufino corner Valero Street, Salcedo Village Makati City.
3. Redemption of Crocs Footwear is extended until December 31, 2007

HP OFFICEJET PRO K5400dn

P8,990

- Up to 30% lower running cost than other laser printers
- High quality printing at up to 36 ppm black and 35 ppm colour (draft)
- Auto duplexer for 2-sided printing
- Built in ethernet networking
- 4 individual inks and long life printheads
- Up to 4800-optimized dpi color



HP OFFICEJET PRO K850

P17,690

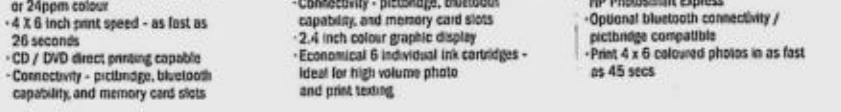
- Reliable, versatile wide format printer for the small office/business
- High quality printing at up to 24 ppm black and 21 ppm colour (draft)
- 6250 pages monthly duty cycle
- Built in Ethernet connectivity
- Supports up to 13" x 19" media
- 4 high capacity individual ink cartridges

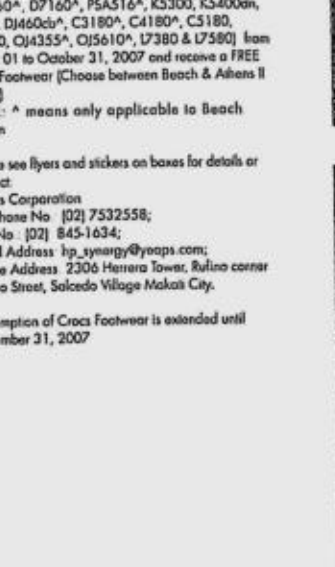
HP DESKJET 460CB

P17,290

- Full featured mobile printer that delivers optional wi-fi and bluetooth wireless connectivity
- High quality printing at up to 17 ppm black and 16 ppm colour
- Up to 4800 dpi optimised dpi colour
- Duty cycle : up to 500 pages per month

Choose from any of the following Free Crocs footwear:





TOP SECRET. Discreet exteriors guarantee privacy.

©2007 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, L.P. The HP Contact Center is available Mondays thru Fridays 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m

Per DTI Permit No. 1382, Series of 2007

Website: www.inquirer.net/entertainment

SATURDAY Special

Editor Nestor U. Torre • Assistant Editor Rito P. Asilo

Text us your feedback: Inquirer sat name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Venice festival awaits Lav Diaz and his latest epic

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

VENICE, ITALY—SEEING THAT THE screening of Lav Diaz's "Kagadanan sa Nanwaan Ning mga Engkanto (Death in the Land of Encantos)" will be followed by an event honoring director Bernardo Bertolucci with a Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival made my *Pinoy* heart swell with pride.

As we write this, the red carpet at the Palazzo del Cinema is being prepared in time for the opening of the world's oldest film festival. Like some actresses, this festival hides its true age well. The festival's 65th edition is actually its 75th anniversary, but World War II—and student protests in 1968—forced some skips.

Lav is not yet here because, as he explained in his e-mail, "We're still rushing the film's dub-outs, and there are problems with the computer. *'Di pa kami nakakatulog*, and it's crunch time!"

Official screening

We hope the *engkantos* will help Lav finish his nine-hour film in time for its official screening. A mixture of documentary and fiction, "Encantos" tells the story of a fictional Filipino poet, Benjamin Agusan, who returns to his hometown in Padang, Bicol in the aftermath of the destruction and tragedy wrought by super typhoon, Reming.

Below are excerpts of our interview with Lav, who managed to answer our questions before he boarded the plane to Venice:

"Death in the Land of Encantos" has the

VENICE/ F2

"ENGKANTO" will be screened in the world's oldest film fest.

PHOTO BY LAUREL LEE PENARANDA

A new Manila

Celadon

Celadon Manila

Step into a fresh new perspective of this side of town with Celadon Manila – where business, pleasure and contemporary living come together in picturesque fashion. Conveniently situated at the center of the Makati, Binondo, and Quezon City commercial and business districts, Celadon Manila features Ayala Land's biggest Business Process Outsourcing zone in Manila, the convenience of a vibrant retail center that only Ayala Malls can deliver, and the uniqueness of an upscale residential community designed with leisure club amenities from Community Innovations. Experience a new Manila in Celadon.

Live Work Dine Unwind

visit: www.celadonmanila.com | call: 712-0963 | email: cii-sales@ayalaland.com.ph

HLURB license to Sell Nos. 16798 and 16797 Ad approval dated August 17, 2007

AyalaLand Community Innovations Ayala Malls

Visit our Sunday Land Mall at Pasadena Drive

Community Innovations Live the life you deserve an AyalaLand company

SM ADVANTAGE exclusive

Avail of exclusive treats you can share with your family and friends when you present your SM Advantage Card.

SPECIALTY SHOPS & SERVICES

Premium Logic FUJIFILM Accent Micro Products, Inc. papemeroi play display COMPlink PNKY Collection tv games Eye Crafter VideoCity Chris executive optical Cyber Mr. Quickie WWWExpress 5th AVE odyssey Music & Video Hello sportshouse The Wedding Library TCA mple star City ALTER BLADE ACTIVE ANIMALHOUSE BSD International homescape

SMAC treats

BDO Rewards Cardholders also enjoy these special privileges

Check this section every other Saturday for the latest SM Advantage promos and highlights

Venice festival awaits Lav . . .

From page F1

closing night honors in the Orizzonti (documentary) section of the Venice Film Festival. And you're in the running for the Artistic Innovation Award for this film at the Toronto International Film Festival. Are you still jazzed up about attending film festivals? What are the best parts and the down side about them?

I love cinema. Festivals are always the best places to discover new works and rediscover old ones. The best part is watching films and interacting with fellow artists from other cultures. There's also the opportunity to meet the masters.

I anticipated to see Ingmar Bergman appear in foggy Goteborg. The down side? Going to festivals can be tiring—and you spend so much. You feel sad about those endless partings, and the visa applications are the most insane!

Since "Encantos" is classified as a documentary, news stories presumed that its protagonist, Benjamin Agusan—a poet and a scholar who goes home after a study grant in Russia—is based on a real-life character. Was Benjamin Agusan inspired by your father who, I understand, is "a lover of Russian literature and all things Russian"? Is there a bit of Lav Diaz in Benjamin?

"Encantos" mixes documentary and fiction. I created Benjamin with no particular Filipino artist or persona in mind. My subconscious merely flowed with all the threads that ended up with the lead character in the nine-hour film.

Familiar terrain

But, Benjamin's journey is familiar terrain for the aesthetic traveler—the search for beauty, real love, redemption, and for answers that could push humanity to greater heights.

The Russian bit is a send-up to my late father, although he never went to Russia. Yes, I know how it feels to be alone in distant lands—I know about solitude and sorrow, so I know Benjamin Agusan.

Hundreds of residents of Padang went missing as a result of super typhoon, Reming. How many are still missing?

There's no exact number to this day. Some say more than three hundred families were buried alive. The smell of death is still in my head.

Don't you sometimes wish that you could just be like other directors who crank out films that are two hours or less in length?

Yes, I wish I can again create feature films shorter than what I'm doing now, and it's easy to fulfill that if only I have the strength to manipulate or betray my *mise en scene* and just be part of the circus.

But, I'm committed to my own cinema. So, I must fulfill my aesthetic stand—I can't compromise it! Length is not really the issue—commitment is. By the way, I just did two short films—one is seven minutes long, and the other, five minutes.

Where does this passion to make films that are epic in scope and length spring from?

I don't really know. There are stories in my head. They take on different incarnations in my poems, songs, short stories and essays. I put them in paintings, novels and cinema. Cinema appropriates those stories well. I love making films. It mirrors my ideology and how I understand the world.

Most amusing

What are the most amusing things that people do to sit through your films?

At Hope University in Kuala Lumpur, a "survivor" put up a virtual kitchen in front of him while watching the 11-hour "Ebolusyon ng Isang Pamilyang Pilipino." He prepared well for the battle!

At the House of World Culture in Berlin, they mounted "Ebolusyon" from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. in a hall where they set up sofa beds, sleeping bags, big pillows and reclining chairs. Coffee was served all night, and masseurs were on standby to provide help. It was cool—even the two-hour discourse after the screening was great!

During Cinemanila's world premiere of "Batang West Side" in Makati, it was full-house. People were standing for five hours. Fresh from the laboratory, Mike de Leon watched it alone at the now-defunct LVN studios.

Incident

You lost five months of post-production work on "Ebolusyon" when your computer crashed. Do you have nightmares about this incident? How do you ensure that this does not happen again?

That was such a nightmare! I almost turned my back on "Ebolusyon." The sound engineer went insane; the assistant director broke down. After that debacle, I can never trust those robots and computers again—those post-post modern of modern man's tools. Even the most sophisticated Macs and PCs are erratic and unpredictable. So, I'm extra careful when dealing with them now.

Your stories about pitching "Ebolusyon" in homes and offices in the US to raise funds and keep the project afloat are worthy of a documentary. To this day, what stands out in your memory from that experience?

The deep loneliness of being in such a struggle. *Ang hirap*! It's hard to describe it—the uncertainty, isolation, desolation, insanity, the madness of it all when you're pursuing a dream. The way I did it was quite fierce and scary. I'm not romanticizing that struggle—it was desperate and painful, but I did it!

Very rich

I remember sitting in the Greyhound bus station in Philadelphia one winter night as I waited for this Filipino guy to pick me up. I didn't know him, he didn't know me. He was a fraternity brother from the Philippines who became very rich selling computers. Somebody hooked us up. And I wanted to show him the footage and ask him if he'd want to finance the film.

I stayed in one of his apartments for a few days. Finally, he invited me to his big house and I started showing the footage. He and his wife watched my black and whites. They were appreciative and patronizing. And they fed me and gave me money that would feed me for a few weeks.

I remember hanging out on a Baltimore street for one whole day in the dead of winter just to wait for another rich Filipino. I kept calling him—but he never showed up!

Then, in the café where I sat for hours, this woman came to me and offered me an obscure Rolling Rock beer and started talking about Edgar Allan Poe and "The Raven," his alcoholism, and his Annabel Lee melancholia. It was surreal—I wanted to laugh and cry! *(To be continued tomorrow)*

E-mail rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com, and read his blog, "The Nepales Report," on www.inquirerbloggers.net/nepalesreport.

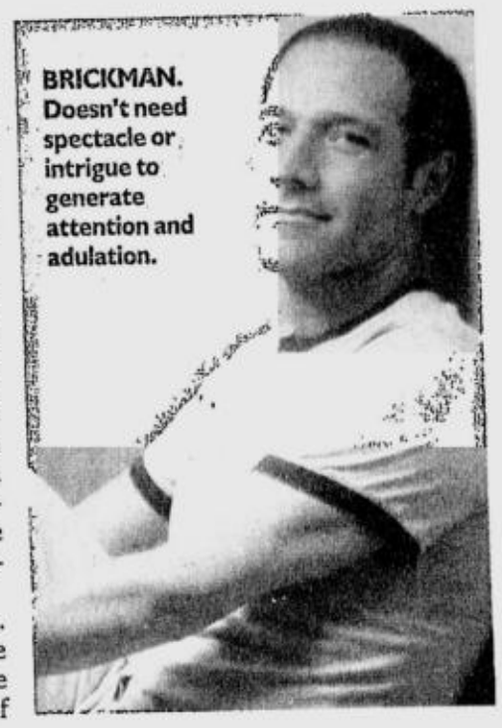
Jim Brickman resumes love affair with fans

By Rito P. Asilo

PINOY MUSIC FANS ARE AN UNCOMpromising lot, but when they pledge their love for their "idol"— foreign or otherwise—their loyalty is beyond question. Some foreign artists actually find that they're bigger here than they are in their native lands:

It wasn't a surprise then when, in the mid-'90s, an affable instrumentalist named Jim Brickman visited Manila and charmed the pants off local music *aficionados*, whom he won over with his collaborations with Martina McBride ("Valentine"). He also wowed them with his uniquely charming covers of children's songs ("Rockabye Baby," "Twinkle Twinkle, Little Star")—which he surprisingly transformed into pop ditties!

But, Brickman was no flash in the pan. At 19, he was hired by Jim Henson to write songs for "Sesame Street." This paved the way for his album in the jazzy confines of Windham Hill Records.



BRICKMAN. Doesn't need spectacle or intrigue to generate attention and adulation.

Single

The single, "Rocket to the Moon," was the first solo instrumental song ever to chart on Billboard's Hot 100. Four of his succeeding albums ("By Heart," "Picture This," "The Gift" and "Destiny") have all sold over 500,000 copies in the US!

His frequent Manila visits signaled the birth of a new musical star in the local recording and concert scenes. He performed at the then William J. Shaw Theater at Shangri-La Plaza to an SRO audience, where he sang his version of "Rainbow Connection"! Like Michael Bublé, his rapport with the crowd was palpable.

Soon, the venues of his concerts got bigger. And local celebrities like Martin Nievera, Lea Salonga ("To Hear You Say You Love Me" "Even Santa Fell In Love"), Ariel Rivera ("In Lover's Eyes") and Sharon Cuneta (who sang "Where's the Good in Goodbye?," "One Dream," as well as Brickman's "In Your Eyes," with Canto-pop superstar, Andy Lau) asked Brickman to write songs for them.

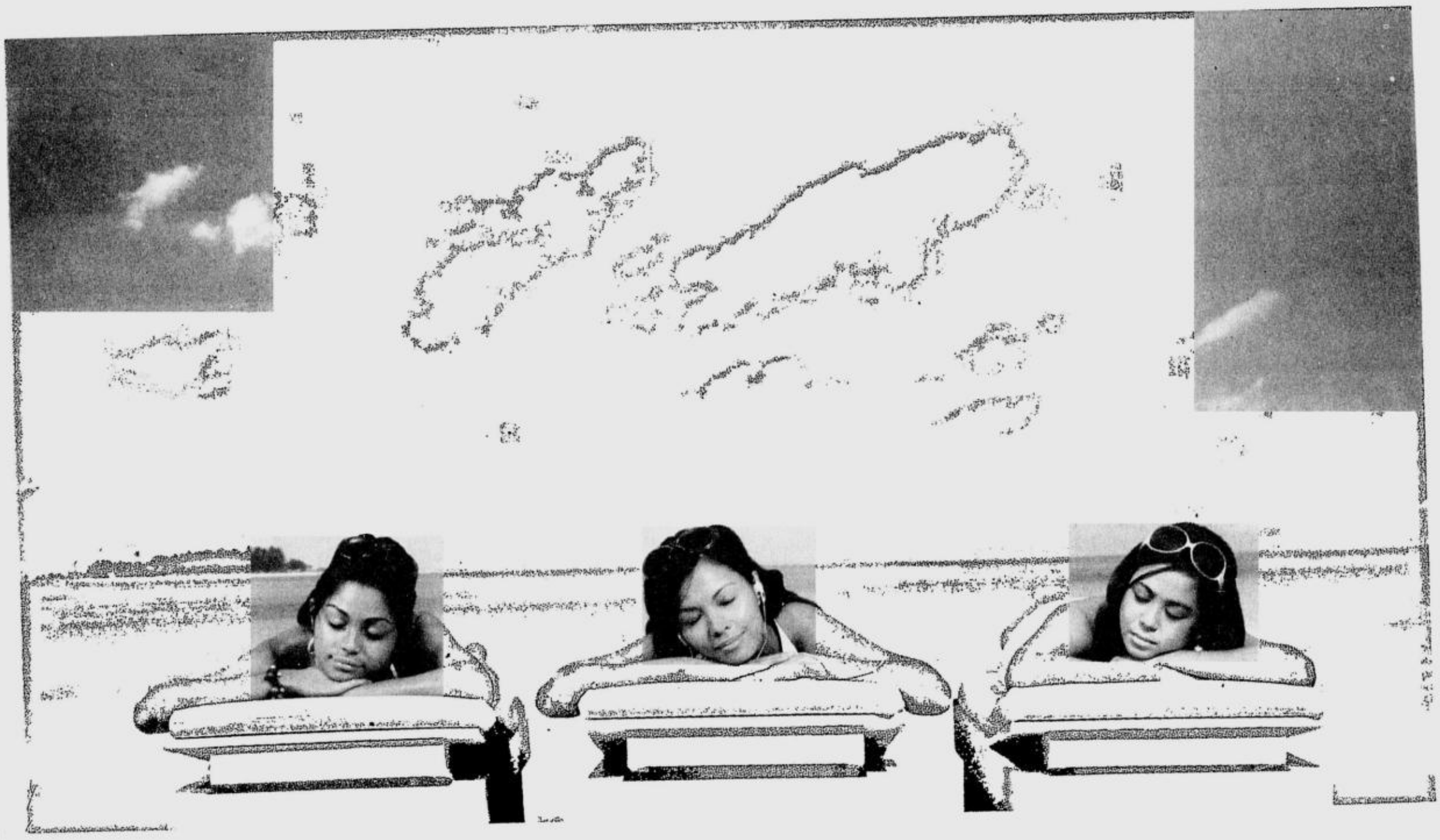
Versions

Michael W. Smith ("Love of My Life"), saxophonist Dave Koz, Donny Osmond, 98 Degrees' Jeff Timmons ("Be the One"), and Kenny Loggins ("Star Bright") are among US recording artists who have collaborated with Brickman. Early this year, Olivia Newton-John also recorded her versions of "Valentine" and "The Gift."

Now, Brickman returns with an all-original compilation, "Escape." "Never Alone" fuses country and jazz music, and features Sara Evans on vocals. Though it doesn't have the vocal lilt of Rebecca Lynn Howard's "Simple Things," the track nevertheless soars with its positive energy.

Another talented guest, Geoff Byrd, provides vocals for the radio-friendly "When It Snows." Our top pick: Gerald Levert's waltzy "My Angel," a track as melodically rich as its father-to-a-child message.

Jim Brickman may not be tabloid-fodder, but he and his rich melodies don't need intrigue or spectacle to generate attention and adulation!



NOW SHOWING

Kidman, Cusack slug it out with aliens and the macabre

By Rito P. Asilo

"The Invasion"
D: Oliver Hirschbiegel
S: Nicole Kidman, Daniel Craig, Jeremy Northam

KIDMAN (WITH CRAIG, LEFT). Plays a psychiatrist in alien-domination thriller.

IN THE FOURTH BIG-SCREEN adaptation of Jack Finney's sci-fi novel, "The Body Snatchers," Nicole Kidman plays Dr. Carol Bennell, a psychiatrist on a mad rush to save her son, Oliver (Jackson Bond), from the clutches of zombie-like, stoic-faced humans who have fallen victims to a highly infectious, flu-like, extra-terrestrial virus.

The viral entity, whose contamination is triggered by a space shuttle disaster, wreaks havoc by reprogramming the human genetic make-up during the "rapid eye movement" phase of deep sleep—thus, the intriguing "don't sleep" tagline.

Carol then realizes that the endospore-spreading alien doesn't just intend to infect, it also wants to dominate and take over the human population!

As contamination turns into global pandemic, it dawns on Carol that this pathological condition isn't solved by merely popping uppers or anti-depressants—and the Ghostbusters have long gone out of fashion! What's a postmodern feminist shrink to do?!

The film's intriguing utopian premise is no doubt spine-tingling, but while it initially gets your attention with its glossy look, end-of-the-world scenario and showy leads (it's hard to dismiss Kidman and Daniel Craig's substantial presence), the movie's engaging premise soon loses steam because it doesn't know how to tie up its loose expositional ends.

Fifty-one years after Don Siegel's original film version scared the living daylights out of delighted viewers, Oliver Hirschbiegel once again proves the oft-ignored relevance of the cinematic maxim: If it ain't broke, don't fix it!

"1408"
D: Mikael Hafstrom
S: John Cusack

In "1408," Mikael Hafstrom's movie version of Stephen King's short story, the horror master also proves a point—that he's no King for nothing!

Despite the strong objections of hotel manager, Olin (Samuel L. Jackson), cynical, 42-year-old writer, Mike Enslin (John Cusack), checks into the Dolphin Hotel's alleged haunted room—1408—to expose an "engineered" urban legend perpetuated by ignorance and commerce.

Soon, Mike realizes that the 56 deaths in the room attributed to demonic forces are more than just figments of a fertile imagination.

As he struggles for survival, he begins to reevaluate his belief that "there's no God to protect us from evil!" Is it too late for redemption?

Hafstrom, King and Cusack team up for a highly satisfying chiller that goes beyond scaring its viewers—it also makes them think about faith and culpability, and forgiveness and salvation.

For Mike, however, he has to think hard and fast when he finally comes face to face with the death wish that he's been chasing after! As they say: Be careful what you wish for!

'The Power to Unite with Elvira' on NBN-4

"THE POWER TO UNITE WITH Elvira" will unfold on Channel 4 next Tuesday, proving that the Word of God can be a source of unity for the country.

The program's host, Elvira Yap Go, a Papal Awardee *pro ecclesiae pontifice* and trustee of Anak TV, uses her resources to push reading the Bible and restoring lost family values in society.

Airing Tuesdays at 7 p.m. come Sept. 4, thanks to the generosity of National Broadcasting Network management, "Power to Unite with Elvira" is an ecumenical magazine program directed by Louie Ignacio who, along with his production staff, does it like Elvira: For the love of God and country.

GO. Hosts religious show.

Guest

The initial episodes are promising both in content and value. His Eminence Ricardo J. Cardinal Vidal is the first show's chief guest, speaking on God's love straight from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

The lighthearted discourse is presented in tandem with entertainment that is along the same vein, like Ms Nanette Inventor, who engages the Tundag family, last year's winner of the Regional Catholic Family Bible Quiz in the Visayas, in an exchange of sentiments about family life.

Inventor fills the show with insights that promise to inspire the single-blessed. Other episodes will feature Donna Cruz, Lindsay Custodio, and Dianne de la Fuente.

In travelogue format, the show's vignettes and sequences will bring viewers to places where the Word of God is being promoted.

The first International Catholic Family Bible Quiz in Italy this year will also be featured. Filipinos are, indeed, the evangelizers of the world!

BOBADILLA AND PEREZ. Memorable meeting.

When glamorous idol and faithful fan meet

By Behn Cervantes

FRANKLIN BOBADILLA WAS A YOUNG ballet dancer in Alice Reyes' dance company at the Cultural Center of the Philippines during the turbulent latter half of the '60s.

Before Martial Law was declared, he packed up his bags and took his ballet shoes to Europe in search of new challenges and greener pastures.

Soon, opportunities opened up for him in Amsterdam, where he became a part of the Scapino Ballet Company, whose repertoire specialized in children's stories. Since Franklin was slight of built, he was perfect for that company. Soon, he was regularly playing, among other colorful characters, the Sugar Plum Fairy when the dance troupe would stage "The Nutcracker Suite" annually.

As an artistic lad in Bulacan, Franklin's favorite Hollywood actress was the iconic Audrey Hepburn. Naturally, his favorite local actress was Barbara Perez. I first met him in 1979 when his friend, Anton Juan, suggested that I look him up when I went to the Dutch capital.

Franklin not only welcomed me to his humble abode, he also made himself available as my guide.

Classy actress

Ever faithful to the erstwhile Sampaguita star, Franklin regaled me with Barbara Perez stories. He reminded me that the classy actress was a favorite of Manila's *haute couture* designers like Valera and Ben Farrales when they staged fashion shows at Manila Hotel.

We kept in touch after that visit. When he learned that Barbara and I were close friends, he sent me his memorabilia of Barbara's stint in Hollywood when she appeared opposite Jeffrey Hunter in "No Man Is an Island." Naturally, Barbara was grateful!

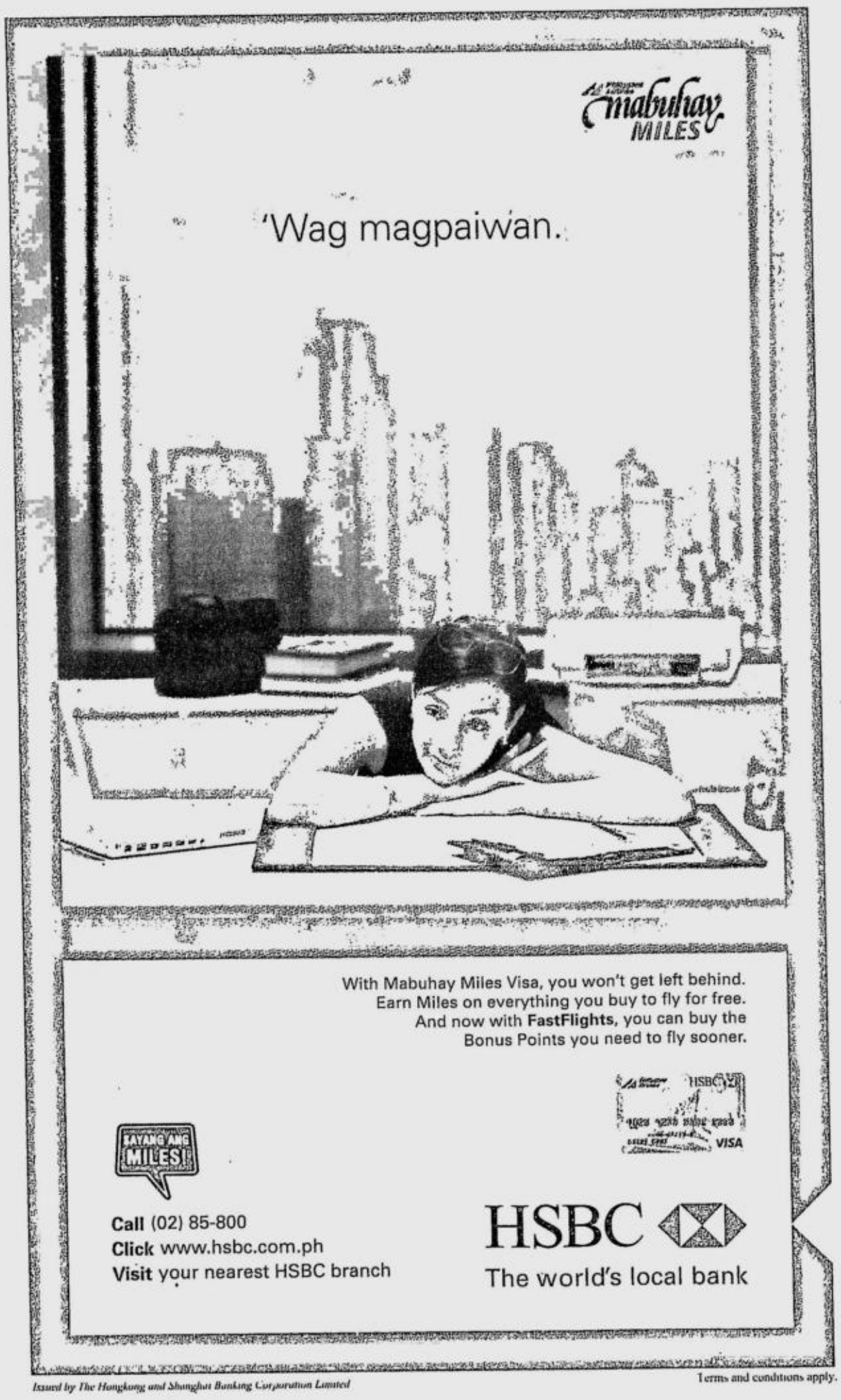
Delightful experience

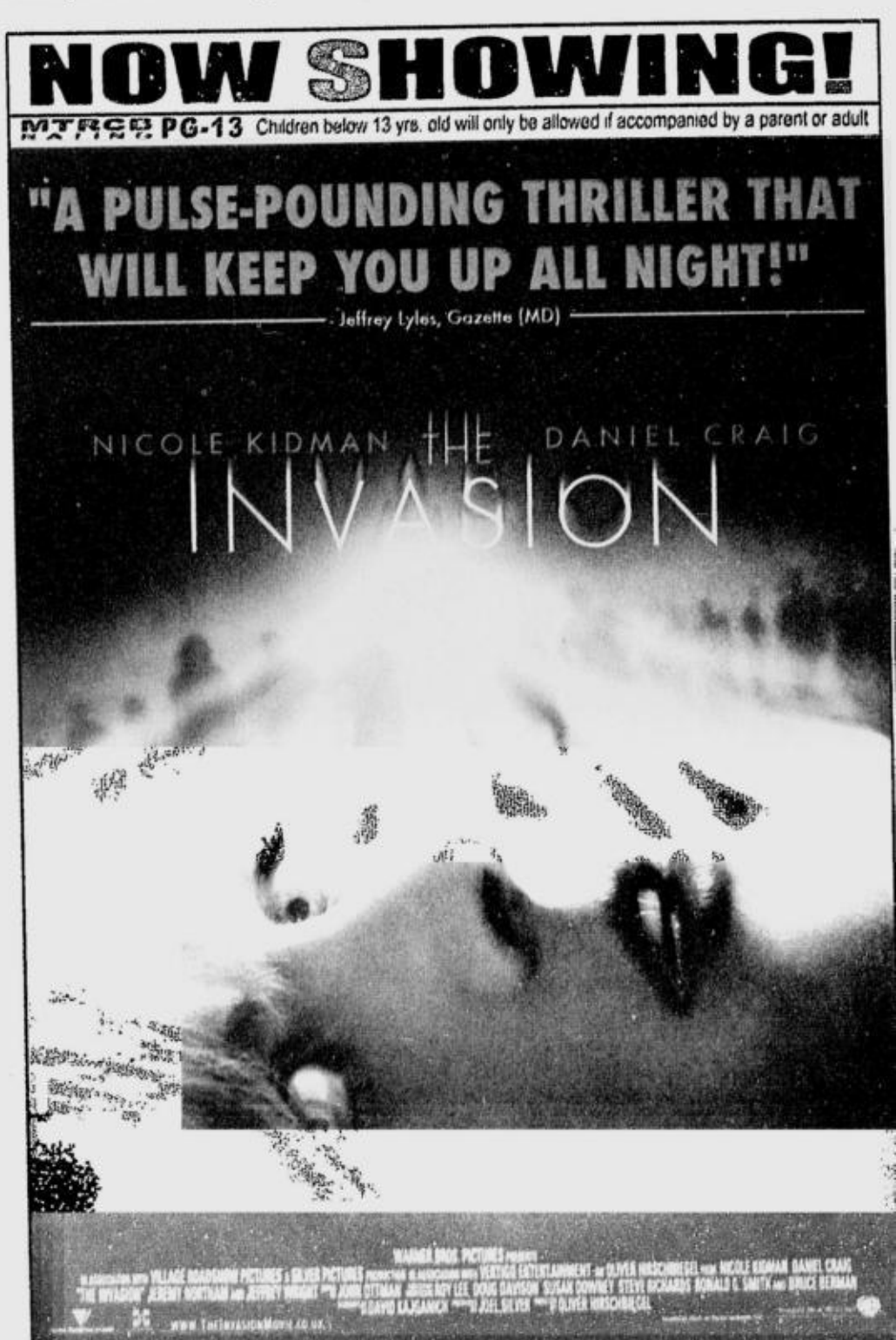
When Franklin came home a few years ago, I surprised him by inviting Barbara and her daughter Ana to join us for lunch. This fateful meeting between star and faithful fan was a delightful experience for both.

Later, Barbara would call me to say that Franklin had sent her another poster of her Hollywood film that he "discovered" in a specialty store. Ana used the larger one as wall décor in her condominium in San Juan.

Franklin started corresponding with Barbara. At one point, she mentioned to him how she enjoyed reading a pocket version of Anya Seton's "Green Darkness," loaned to her by Guia Gomez a few years ago. Imagine the actress' thrill when, one day, she received a hard-bound version of the novel via parcel post!

Sometimes, Franklin makes long distance calls to check if Manila articles on Barbara are accurate. (His friends in Bulacan are well aware of his "loyalty" to his idol, so they send him articles related to Barbara). Naturally, the longtime admirer is thrilled, but he wants to make sure that facts about his idol are correct and accurate. Indeed, Barbara is fortunate to have such a loving fan!





Gifted youths topbill breakout TV-film productions

By Nestor U. Torre

AFTER TV CO-HOST VANESSA Minillo, it's the turn of another Fil-Am talent named Vanessa—this time surnamed Hudgens—to make it big in US entertainment. She's playing the female lead in the "High School Musical" TV-film series, and the brightest feather in her cap to date is the second "HSM" TV musical's phenomenal rating: It recently drew 17 million viewers—a record for basic cable TV specials.

No wonder, there's a third "HMS" production in the works, and it's meant for the big screen, for a 2008 release.

Real-life squeeze

Thanks to the musical series' success, young Ms Hudgens is zooming up Hollywood's star escalator—as is her leading man, Zac Efron, who also happens to be her real-life squeeze.

Vanessa may be stardom-bound now, but she's been honing her show biz skills for a full decade. Born to an American dad, Greg, and Filipino mother, Gina Guangco, Vanessa started performing when she was only 8 years old.

HUDGENS. Zooming up Hollywood's star escalator.

After taking a slew of lessons, she did TV, commercials and movies before landing her plum "High School Musical" assignment and releasing her debut album last year.

The young Fil-Am talent is deemed the perfect choice for Hollywood stardom these days, because she can look both Asian and Latina.

Fan base

This expands her fan base in a big way, and ushers in more performing offers from producers who want to profit from the Asian and Latin American audience sectors that have been mushrooming for the past five years.

Most recently, Vanessa won Female Breakout Artist honors at the Teen Choice Awards—a sign of even better things to come!

So, has all this gone to Vanessa Hudgens' pretty head? Happily, not. She's bent on focusing on her career and not on its attendant glitz and scandals, and wants to be a good role model for other teens.—No Paris Hilton, she!

Another young talent who's just become a star is heretofore unknown Nikki Blonsky, who plays the stout but twinkle-toed ingenue lead in the film musical, "Hairspray."

The production believes so much in its plump young find that it gives her the big build-up treatment from its very first sequence, which shows Nikki optimistically facing a brand-new day.

Fledgling careers

Just like her screen character, Nikki has only good things to look forward to in her fledgling career. She isn't movie star-pretty, and definitely not "fashionably anorexic," but her huge musical talent more than makes up for her lack of traditional big-screen pulchritude.

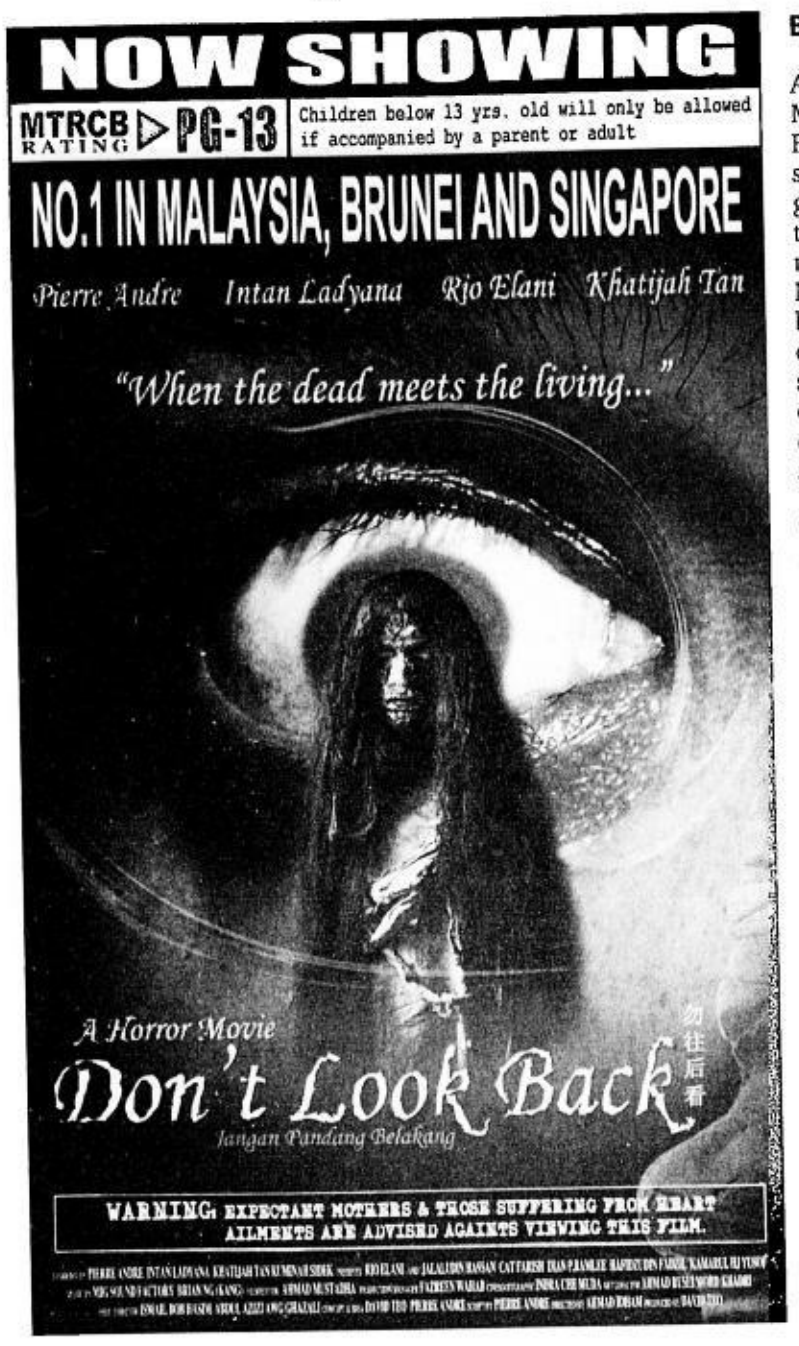
Trouble is, "Hairspray" has given Nikki such a big debut boost that she may have a hard time finding a similarly attention-calling follow-up project.

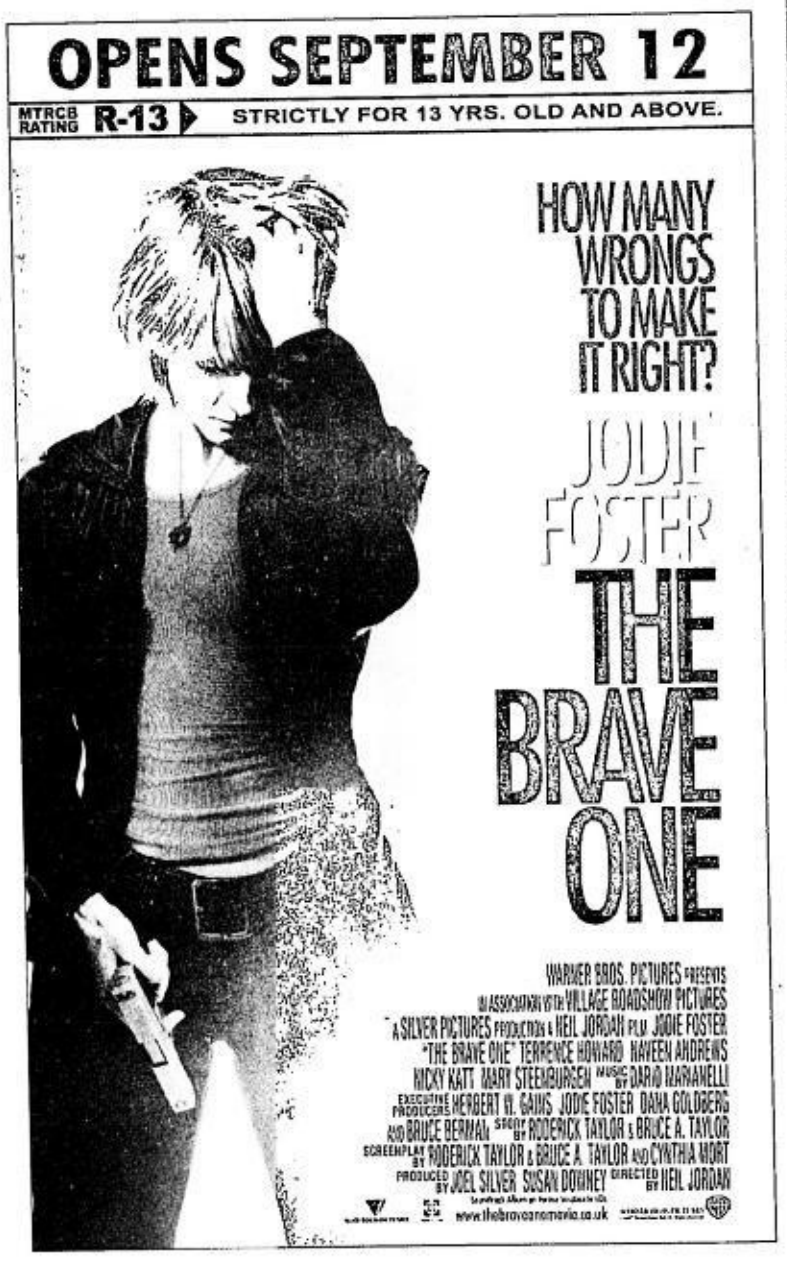
Many overnight sensations have zoomed up like a comet in their launching films, only to fall from cinematic grace in their very next screen appearance. Nikki Blonsky's mentors and handlers will have their hands full thinking up ways to avoid such a tragic fate.

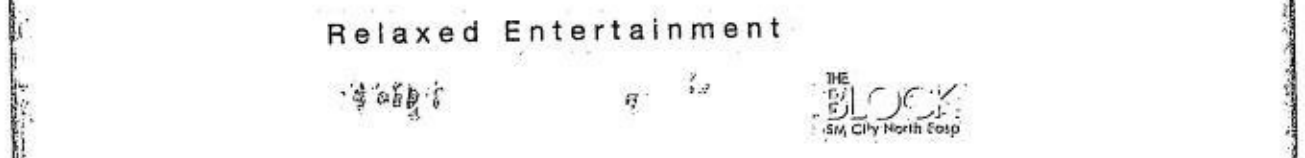
Talented

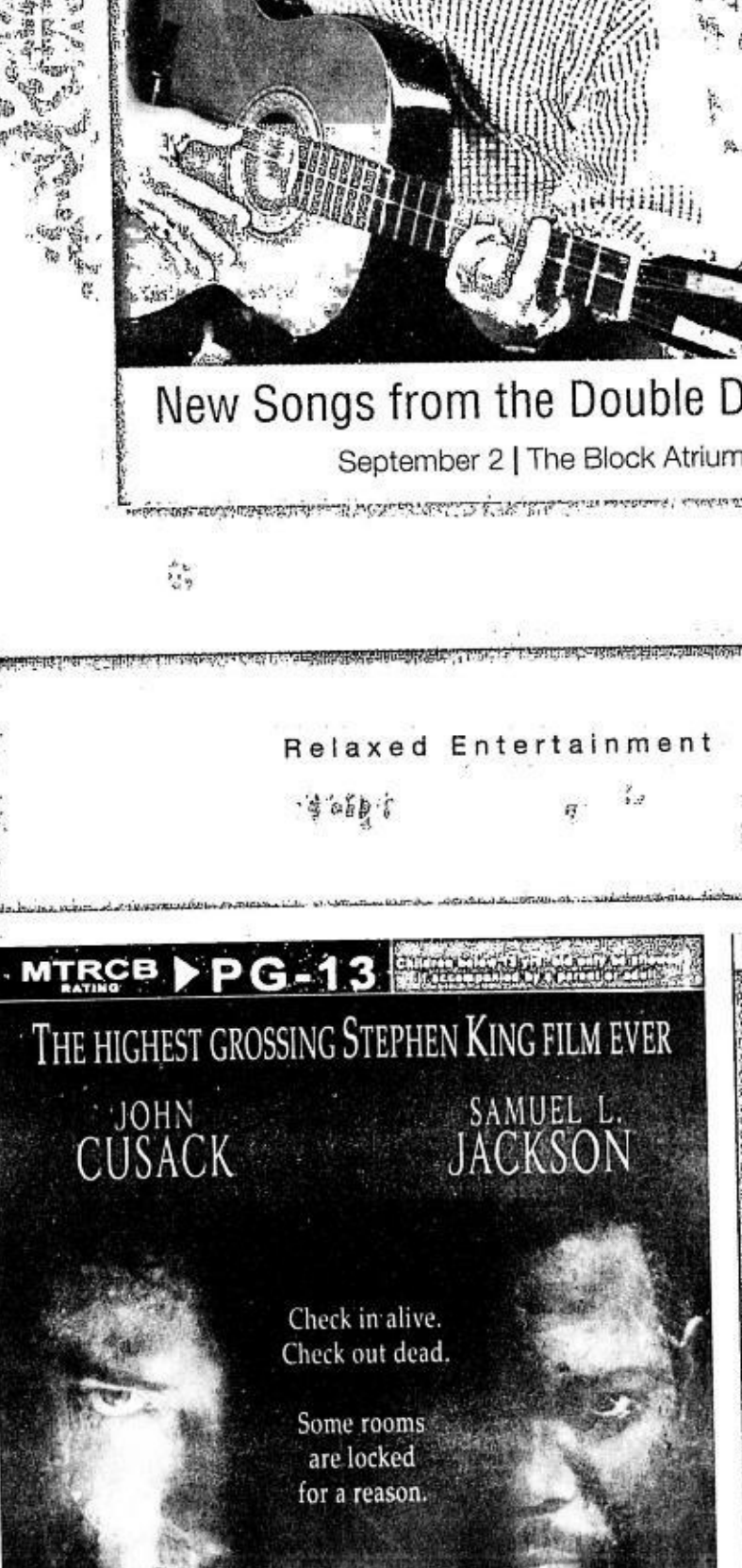
Other talented youths who are getting their big film breaks this season include Emma Roberts in "Nancy Drew," Joseph Gordon-Levitt in "The Lookout," Freddy Rodriguez in "Harsh Times," and Zhanna Friske in "Daywatch." May their stellar careers fly high, far—and long!

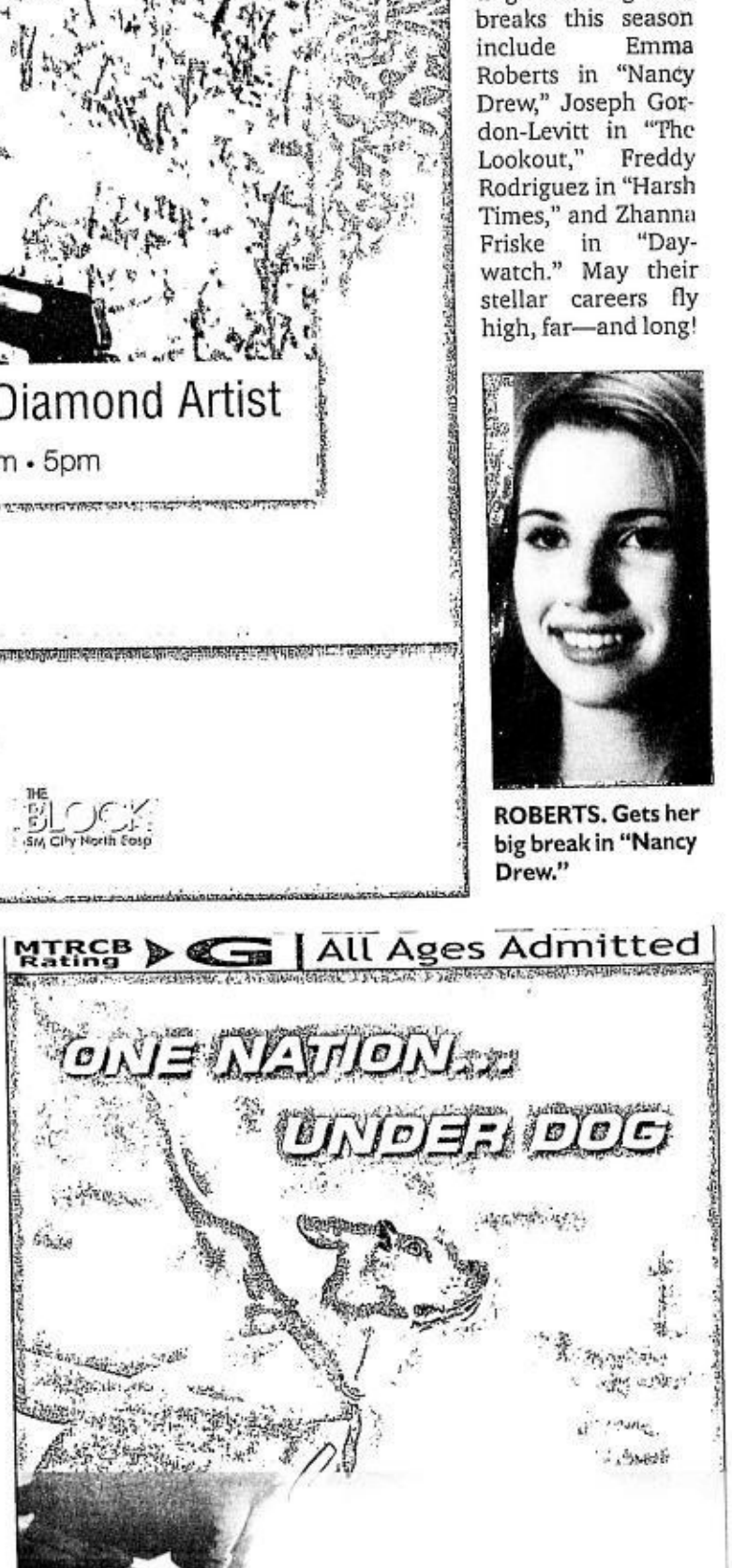
ROBERTS. Gets her big break in "Nancy Drew."











SATURDAY *Special*

Cherry Pie Picache moves up to lead status

CARICATURE BY STEFFI BRAVO

PICACHE. Turns in another exceptional performance in "Foster Child."

By Nestor U. Torre

IN THE ENTIRE FILM WORLD, CHERRY PIE Picache could be the only star ever named after a baked product.

Logically, that would work against her becoming successful as a dramatic actress, because how many critics do you know who would take a Cherry Pie seriously, right up there with the Noras and Vilmas of the local film world's thespic royalty?

But, through sheer dint of consistently good performances, Picache has succeeded in making her unusual appellation a non-issue. If she keeps coming up with outstanding portrayals, the actress could be named Spaghetti Picache, for all we care.

Characterization

For years now, we've always liked Cherry Pie's big-screen characterizations (with the exception of her "Manay Po" appearance, where she was too artificially ditzy for comfort). We especially appreciated her performance in "Bridal Shower," where she turned her "loser" character into a winner.

But, we really raved over Cherry Pie's portrayal of a lesbian in "Kaleldo." Unlike other lesbian characterizations that stress stereotypical "butch" or even "macho" behavior, Cherry Pie's lesbian portrayal was more internalized and natural: No tough-guy posturing, but completely credible, nonetheless.

The actress' fresh approach was even more felicitous because it enabled her to develop and explore her character's other aspects, aside from her being a lesbian: She was also a daughter, sister and friend. Thus, the character she created was well-rounded and three-dimensional, unlike many lesbian portrayals that stress their gender-bending aspect.

Since we watched "Kaleldo" in preview, months before its regular run, we were able to write about Cherry Pie's outstanding performance early enough to interest other people in it, thus expanding the movie's influence and impact when it was finally released.

Realistic portrayal

Most recently, Cherry Pie once more impressed us with her acutely realistic portrayal of a foster mother in "Foster Child." Again, we caught the film in preview, so we were able to spread the good word about it way before its mainstream release (on Sept. 12).

Cherry Pie's performance in "Foster Child" is exceptional, because the actress "disappears" into the "ordinary" character she's playing. That's a difficult feat for stars to accomplish, because their stellar "presence" is far from ordinary.

Thus, the actress had to work hard to subsume her show biz persona into her role. To do this, she had to "forget" all the attention-calling tricks of the acting trade, and simply concentrate on "boring" activities like cooking, washing clothes and bathing a child.

Acutely moving

She was greatly aided by the film's "real time" approach, which stressed a slow progression of humdrum events, with as few acting "highlights" as possible. This *can* be carried to extremes, but when it works, it makes the action (or lack of it) onscreen completely believable—and, surprisingly, acutely moving.

"Foster Child" is a threshold film for Cherry Pie because it gifts her with her first truly lead role in a dramatic film.

After the raves and honors the movie and Cherry Pie's performance have won abroad, we trust that other local producers will cast her in major roles from here on in!

DIRECTOR'S CUT

Communication is key for Jeffrey Jeturian

By Ronald G. Mangubat

JETURIAN. Perfectionist.

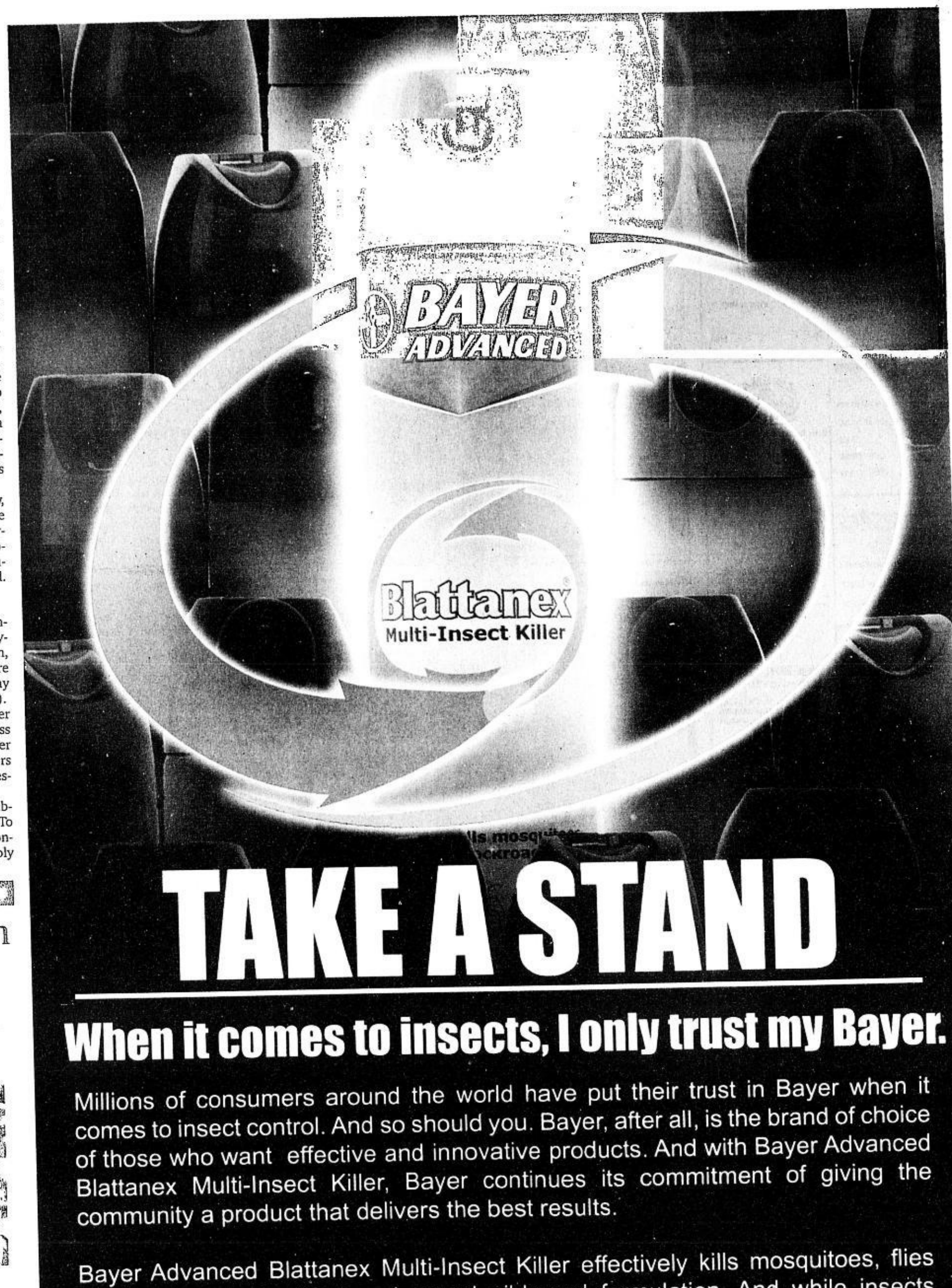
A DECADE AGO, when Jeffrey Jeturian was tapped to direct his first full-length film, he was not sure if his personality would fit into the "crazy" world of show business. "I'm not aggressive," he explains. "I'm soft-spoken, reticent and laid-back. I'm not the show biz type!"

Burning desire

But, Jeturian's burning desire to become a filmmaker pushed him to conquer his fears and face the gruelling demands of movie directing. "My attitude then was to go for broke," the 47-year-old filmmaker recalls. "Luckily, the critics liked my work, and other offers came soon after."

Indeed, the former UP Architecture student has gone a long way from the days when he would skip lunch in school just to save up for a movie ticket. Ensconced in the dark theater, he would watch his favorite stars on the big screen and experience the hypnotic power of the movies.

COMMUNICATION/ G2



Swashbuckling heroics buoy up swords-and-sandals epic

By Noelani Torre

AS A WHOLE, THE EPIC-WANNABE AD-venture movie, "The Last Legion," isn't that bad. If you're an 8-year-old, you might even think it's great. This Dino De Laurentiis production has enough swashbuckling sword-play and battle scenes to gladden the hearts of preadolescents. But those expecting something along the testosterone-fueled lines of "300" had best look elsewhere.

Fight scenes

Despite the film's abundant fight scenes and its Roman setting, there's hardly any blood and gore here. Still, the stuttering pace of its action sequences is a drag.

The movie shies away from displaying truly dramatic scenes. The cameras always seem like they're half a beat too late and, by the time they manage to get a shot, the dust has settled. Perhaps we've gotten inured to violence and hence now expect more of it, but even the least action-hungry among us will have to concede that most of the film's action is, at best, only mildly engaging.

RAI AND FIRTH. Topbill Doug Lefler's "The Last Legion."

Directed by Doug Lefler and partly based on a book by Valerio Manfredi, the movie is a swords-and-sandals spectacle that doesn't deliver enough visual thrills to be truly spectacular. While the movie's premise is interesting enough, it's also one that has already been explored elsewhere.

The movie takes us back to 476 A.D., a time when the once-mighty Roman Empire has been brought to its knees. The Goths, headed by their leader, Odoacer (Peter Mullan), are fast becoming a threat, and the last Caesar is a 12-year-old boy, Romulus (Thomas Sangster), who doesn't reign for long.

Soon after the young lad's coronation, the Goths storm the gates, kill his parents and take over his empire. Romulus and his tutor, Ambrosinus (Ben Kingsley), are imprisoned in the fortress island of Capri, guarded by Odoacer's right-hand man, Wulfilla (Kevin McKidd of "Rome").

Rescue comes in the heroic form of the captain of Romulus' Imperial Guard, Aurelius (Colin Firth), who is assisted by his men and a mysterious Byzantine warrior, who turns out to be a woman (drop-dead gorgeous Bollywood star, Aishwarya Rai).

Ancestor

While imprisoned, Romulus discovers the legendary sword of his ancestor, Julius Caesar, and he brings it along with him when he's rescued. After the escape, they all head north to Britannia in search of Rome's last legion—but danger follows and also awaits them there!

This tying up of the Roman Empire and the Round Table has been done before (2004's "King Arthur"), but "The Last Legion" tries to be creative about it. Unfortunately, it doesn't get creative enough.

Communication... From page G1

It was Lino Brocka's "Maynila Sa Mga Kuko ng Liwanag" that cemented his desire to become a filmmaker, which eventually led to his first movie, "Sana Pag-ibig Na." Excerpts from our interview:

What's keeping you busy these days?

I'm doing TV work for ABS-CBN. I direct two episodes of "Maalaala Mo Kaya" every month, and I'll be starting a new soap starring Anne Curtis. I'm also in the research stage of my next movie, which is inspired by the legend of Laguna de Bay.

Last year, you traveled around the world because of "Kubrador." What was that experience like?

It was great! "Kubrador" was shown in 51 film festivals; I went mostly to those based in Europe. I even became a judge in Estonia. Gina Pareño won best actress thrice—in India, Brussels and France.

What insights did you get from attending those festivals?

I realized that, if you show your own culture, foreigners would be interested to watch your films, because, for them, they're novel!

What were your fears when you were starting as a director?

I was concerned that I might not be able to make my actors act—that was my greatest fear! But, based on experience, as long as you know what the scene is about, and you know how to communicate with your actors, they will deliver. In acting and directing, communication is key.

Scenes

Which scenes in your films were difficult to mount?

The sex scenes in "Pila-Balde." *Pinakiramdaman ko muna ang mga artista!* I kept postponing the shoot. The All Saints Day cemetery scene in "Kubrador" was also difficult to shoot, because I couldn't stop people from saying, "*Tita* Gina!"

Will you still be making films 10 years from now?

Yes, filmmaking is the only thing that gives me a high. I love my work!

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
10:00am INVASION
2:00pm 1408
3:00pm EVAN ALMIGHTY
4:00pm HAIRSPRAY
PREMIERE
8:00pm BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216
1 THE INVACION
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 MY KUYAS WEDDING

stmall
EDSA - SHAW
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
3 A LOVE STORY
4 pouring MY KUYAS WEDDING
5 RESERVED

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthestar.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 8433994
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 1408
3 LAST LEGION
4 A LOVE STORY

THEATRES
MY KUYAS WEDDING
A LOVE STORY
BOURNE ULTIMATUM

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA
CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel. (042) 660-6271
A LOVE STORY
MY KUYAS WEDDING
RESERVED

Filinvest
FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DTS) 1408
2 (SDDS) RUSH HOUR - 3
3 (DTS) THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 (SDDS) (DTS) THE INVACION
5 (SDDS) (DOLBY) LAST LEGION
6 (SDDS) EVAN ALMIGHTY
7 (SDDS) (DOLBY) THE INVACION
8 (DOLBY) MY KUYAS WEDDING
9 (DOLBY) A LOVE STORY
10 (DOLBY) DON'T LOOK BACK

Blue Wave
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sta. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927
1 (DOLBY) A LOVE STORY
2 (DOLBY) MY KUYAS WEDDING
3 (DOLBY) THE INVATION
4 (DOLBY) LAST LEGION

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
tel 7334228
1 pouring CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4 MY KUYAS WEDDING
5 THE INVATION

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 SIGNOS

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)
1 RUSH HOUR - 3
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 pouring 1408
2 MY KUYAS WEDDING
3 (DTS) THE INVACION
4 A LOVE STORY

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 A LOVE STORY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72
1 pouring HAIRSPRAY/BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 pouring THE INVATION
3 pouring EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 pouring 1408

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 pouring A LOVE STORY
3 pouring RUSH HOUR - 3
4

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel. (049) 4111146
1 RESERVED
2 pouring RESERVED
3 (DTS) RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771
1 A LOVE STORY
2 MY KUYAS WEDDING
3 pouring THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 A LOVE STORY
3 pouring RUSH HOUR - 3
4 (DTS) BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 A LOVE STORY
3 pouring RUSH HOUR - 3

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 A LOVE STORY

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748
1 SIGNOS
2 THREE

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 pouring DON'T LOOK BACK
2 KAINAN SA HIGHWAY
3 WARAT
4 pouring THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 pouring MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 MALAGKIT
3 pouring A LOVE STORY
4 LICENSE TO WED
5 RUSH HOUR - 3

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 RUSH HOUR - 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 PLEASE CALL
2 PLEASE CALL

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Eastwood City
2007 Firefly Brigade
Eastwood City Bike Clinic
Sept.1 / 7:00 am / Eastwood Central Plaza
Limited to 50 participants per session.
First Come, First Served.
Bring your bicycle & helmet
Resource Speaker, Mr. Jack Yabut
FREE ADMISSION
Eastwood City
Tel 687-6979 to 74 • 0917-8-EWCITY

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
DOLBY DIGITAL
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
To receive Eastwood City Events, Promos and Cinema schedule just text eastwood and send to 2948 for Globe, Smart & Sun Cellular subscribers
For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

BOURNE ULTIMATUM 2:40, 5:25 PG-13
HAIRSPRAY 8:30, 11:10 G
INVASION 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:00 PG-13
EVAN ALMIGHTY 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 G
1408 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 PG-13

Araneta Center
aranetacenter.net
Gateway MALL FarmersPlaza Farmers Market

WAITRESS
NOW SHOWING
EXCLUSIVELY AT
Gateway CINEPLEX*10
gatewaycineplex10.com
For ticket inquiries, call 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph or www.aranetacenter.net

Gateway CINEPLEX*10
ALL THEATERS WITH DOLBY DIGITAL EX ULTRA SOUND
EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

THE INVASION 12:15 / 2:35 / 4:55 / 7:15 / 9:50	LAST LEGION 1:00 / 3:50 / 6:40 / 9:30	1408 1:10 / 3:20 / 5:30 / 7:40 / 9:50	Globe PLATINUM CINEMA
DON'T LOOK BACK 12:00 / 4:00 / 8:00 BOURNE ULTIMATUM 12:10 / 4:50 / 10:20	MY KUYA'S WEDDING 12:20 / 2:40 / 5:00 / 7:20 / 9:40	RUSH HOUR 3 2:00 / 6:00 / 10:00	
A LOVE STORY 1:40 / 4:20 / 7:00 / 9:40 WAITRESS 1:40 / 4:20 / 7:00 / 9:40	PPV - WWE SUMMERSLAM 11:30 / 2:30 / 6:30	EVAN ALMIGHTY 12:30 / 2:50 / 5:10 / 9:50	THE INVASION 2:00 / 4:20 / 5:40 / 9:00

MALL 5

1 LAST LEGION 12:15 / 3:05 / 6:55 / 8:45	2 1408 12:00 / 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 / 8:40	3 THE INVASION 1:05 / 3:25 / 5:45 / 8:05
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING 12:10 R4 / 1:30 / 3:50 / 6:10 / 8:30	5 A LOVE STORY 12:20 / 3:00 / 5:40 / 8:20	DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!
WWE summerslam REPLAYS
TODAY & TOMORROW • 11.30AM | 2.30PM | 6.30PM
GATEWAY CINEPLEX 10 TICKET PRICE: P160
JOHN MORRISON VS CM PUNK / JOHN CENA VS RANDY ORTON
THE GREAT KHALI VS BATISTA / REY MYSTERIO VS CHAVO GUERRERO
For reservations, call 911-5555 or log on to ticketnet.com.ph & aranetacenter.net

MTRCB PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if duly accompanied by a parent or adult
NOW SHOWING
WITNESS THE SPECTACULAR FINAL BATTLE UNLIKE ANY YOU HAVE EVER SEEN BEFORE.
IN THE TRADITION OF 300 COMES ANOTHER HISTORICAL EPIC THAT DEPICTS THE COURAGE OF A FEW LEGIONNAIRES WHO FOUGHT AGAINST AN ARMY 50 TIMES BIGGER AND WON.
BEFORE KING ARTHUR, THERE WAS EXCALIBUR.
FROM DINO DE LAURENTIIS THE PRODUCER OF KING KONG
THE LAST LEGION

Devarana Spa features guest Thai therapist

THAI MASSAGE IS AN INTERACTIVE manipulation of the body using passive stretching and gentle pressure along energy lines. These movements help adjust the skeletal structure, increase flexibility, relieve muscular and joint tension, stimulate internal organs and balance the body's energy system.

The effect is uniquely relaxing as well as energizing. Receiving a Thai massage is a bit like doing yoga without putting forth any effort while also getting acupressure treatments.

The work displays an inherent knowledge of the inner workings of the body, a knowledge that developed over centuries of practice, a knowledge that was mastered by Thai Therapists Ms Yupaporn Pana and Ms Supichar Meeboonya.

Ms Pana and Ms Meeboonya are two of Devarana Spa's guest Thai Therapist starting Sept. 1 until end of October.

Both are from Devarana Spa, Bangkok, Thailand and are looking forward to pleasing spa clients with authentic Thai massage and other superb variety of spa treatments offered at Devarana Spa including facials, body, water and beauty treatments.

Relax and experience a balanced body, mind and spirit at Devarana Spa and let Ms Pana and Ms Meeboonya relieve you from your stress.

Feel the heavenly touch of Devarana Spa, located at the second floor of Dusit Hotel Nikko. For inquiries, call 867-3333 or 818-7081.

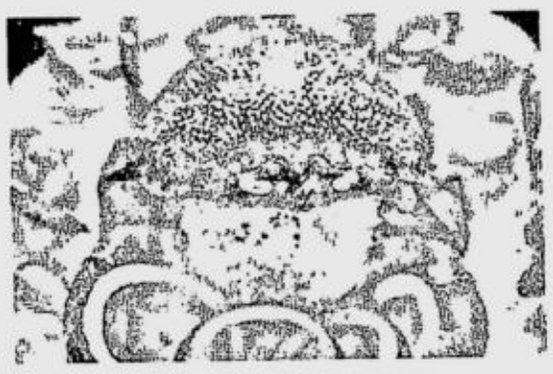
S time at Sushi-Ya

INDULGE IN GUILT-FREE YET AFFORDable set meals. Simply add P50 to any main course dish to turn these into set meals -- complete with steam rice and miso soup! Choose from Salmon Teriyaki, Chicken Teppanyaki, Squid Yakiniku at P185, P110 and P120 respectively. Or bite into Prawns Tempura for 5 pieces at P200. Also, light meals are now available - Tofu Curry, Chirashidon, and Jurassic Roll at P100, P175 and P180 respectively. All prices are VAT inclusive and free of service charge. Available at Sushi-Ya's 8 branches: Westgate Alabang (In front of Gonuts Donuts) Market! Market! Fort Bonifacio Lower Ground Floor, Building B, SM Mega Mall Second Level, Robinsons Galleria Taste Buds, Robinsons Place Manila Acropolis, Libis Tomas Morato corner Scout Castor Fiesta Strip SM City Pampanga.

LUSCIOUS FOOD AT THE DECK

This array of expensive imported chocolates is part of the luscious feast that characterizes a major attraction at The Deck, Marco Polo Davao's latest addition to its many luxurious facilities. Aside from the fitness center and a large pool, The Deck at the 4th floor of Marco Polo Davao features three brand-new facilities - Polo Bistro restaurant, Sarangani function room, and Lazuli Spa. Famous for its sumptuous food, relaxing amenities, and superb service, Marco Polo Davao has become the city's leisure and events hub, with The Deck as its new icon for ultimate indulgence.

CHABACANO FOOD FESTIVAL AT THE BELLEVUE



Embark on a multicultural journey this September as the Bellevue Hotel, the only hotel with 5 star amenities south of the Metro, in collaboration with the Department of Tourism Region 9 headed by Director Ric San Juan, offers gastronomic delights from Zamboanga. From Sept. 7 to 9, Bellevue's Café d'Asie flies in a guest chef all the way from Zamboanga who will share her culinary expertise and sumptuous delicacies such as curacha crabs and imbao oysters for only P795++. The hotel will also be hosting cultural dances; models will showcase the exquisite products and fabrics of the region while the restaurant will be decorated in true Zamboangan fashion. Come enjoy this culinary and cultural feast only at the Bellevue! For inquiries, call 771-8181.

QUANTUM HOTELS AND RESORTS KEEPS HOUSE FOR TORRE VENEZIA

Renowned property management company Quantum Hotels and Resorts signs up with 24K Ventures to manage Torre Venezia. Now on its final stage, Torre Venezia is currently rising to the skies on Timog Avenue, Quezon City and is one of the most anticipated serviced residence in this premier city. Quantum's partnership with 24K also highlights its excellent management performance, even as it continues to successfully run the prestigious properties composed of the plush services residences of The Malayan Plaza in Ortigas, and the Italian-inspired Subic Holiday Villas at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone in Zambales. Quantum also manages the serviced apartments of the BSA Towers, BSA suites, and Perla Mansion; all located in the Central Business District of Makati City. All these offer a wide variety of fully furnished rooms - from studio units to one-bedroom and two-bedroom suites. All of the suites have living rooms, dining areas, and their kitchens are equipped with a refrigerator, stove, microwave oven, glassware, cutlery, plates, and utensils. For more information on these properties, call 864-0941 to 43 or log on to www.quantumsuites.com. Shown in photo are (from left): Rudy R. Guinhawa - president and CEO of 24K Development & Construction Corp, Cynthia Sootoka - Quezon City Rotary Club president of South Triangle District 3780, Hon. Mayor Sonny Belmonte - Quezon City, and Joey D. Bernardino-Quantum Hotels & Resorts, VP-sales and marketing.

Waterfront wins in culinary showdown

FOR THE 2ND TIME IN TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS, WATERFRONT Insular Hotel Davao wins 1st place for the three-course event professional level at the 5th Mindanao Culinary Showdown last Aug. 24 held at the NCCC Mall, Maa Davao City. The event was participated by 5 teams from different hotels and restaurants in Davao City. The teams were given 30 minutes to prepare the three course meal which consisted of an appetizer, a main course and a dessert. Team Waterfront Insular Hotel Davao who bagged the championship competition comprised of chef Isidro Tadtad, executive sous chef and renowned Kaimunan (bamboo cooking) expert and kitchen attendant Flora May Mata will fly to Singapore next year to witness the Singapore Food Festival. The winning dishes were Pasta Onya (Chicken in Native Durian Herbs Spaghetti Sauce), Loot na Baka sa Gata (Braised Monterey Beef in Young Coco Curry – Native Herb Sauce), and Loót Naubit Durian (Ube and Durian Cooked in Bamboo).

GlemGas recommended by top chefs

GLEMGAS COOKING APPLIANCES HAS recently been regarded by acclaimed chefs such as chef Hubertus Cramer (in photo), as the best in the culinary scene. Known as the Italian cooking specialist, GlemGas manufactures quality cooking appliances and exports 75 percent of its products to different countries in the world. It meets the stringent standards of chef Cramer of Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila because of its durability, technology, and efficiency. Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila, reputed as one of the most prestigious hotels in the Philippines, is known for the memorable dining experience it offers in its restaurants. GlemGas is exclusively distributed in the Philippines by Excellence Appliance Technologies. For inquiries, please call 712-0535.

Authentic Hong Kong cuisine at Golden Harbour

IF YOU ARE ON THE PROWL FOR authentic Hong Kong cuisine, you better get your money's worth. With so many restaurants claiming to offer the real stuff, you have to be able to sift through the list to find the real deal. Or to save you from the trouble, visit Golden Harbour seafood restaurant. Golden Harbour is located at 138 West Ave., Quezon City near North Edsa specializes in authentic Hong Kong seafood cuisine.

The big aquarium showcase in the main dining area, filled with edible live seafood including lobster, suahe, prawns, king fish, crabs, lapu-lapu, edible eels and turtles is a solid affirmation. Patrons can choose from any of the live seafood on display with the assurance that they will be served fresh. With Cantonese Hong Kong chef Peter Lee leading a team of veteran cooks, customers are in for an exciting dining experience. Golden Harbour serves more than 230 items including roasting soups, hotpots, rice noodles, vegetables, desserts, cold drinks and hot drinks and liquors. Of course, your Golden Harbour experience is not complete if you wont try out any of the chef's recommendations. So visit Golden Harbour now and experience Hong Kong cuisine unlike any other. For more information, call 920-5883 and delivery hotline 928-0019 to 20.

Where to Stop Where to Go

A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

Astor Hotel
7835 Makati Ave., cor Eduque St., Makati City Tel 750-7500
Email: sales@bestwesternastor.com
www.bestwesternastor.com

Astoria Plaza
15 J. Escriva Drive, Ortigas Bus. District, Pasig City
Tel 687-1111 Fax 910-0370
sales@astoriaplaza.com

CSB Hotel
Arellano Ave., cor. Estrada St., Malate, Manila Tel. 400-3333
Fax 400-7401
customerservice@csbhotel.com

Executive Plaza Hotel
1630 A Mabini St., Malate, Manila
Tel 523-1000 /fax 525-8979
sales@executiveplazahotel.com
www.executiveplazahotel.com

Hotel Veniz
No. 1 Abanao St. Baguio City
Tel. (074) 446-0700 to 03
Fax (074) 446-0704
hotelveniz@skyinet.net
www.hotelveniz.com

Intercontinental Manila
1 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel. 815-9711
www.intercontinental.com

Garden Plaza Hotel & Suites
1030 Belen St., Paco, Manila
Tel. 522-4835
Fax 522-4840

Las Palmas Hotel Manila
1616 A. Mabini St., Malate, Manila
Tel. 521-1000/ Fax 523-6917
www.laspalmashotel.com.ph

Mactan Island Resort
Punta Engano Road, Lapu Lapu Cebu
Tel. 231-0288/Fax 231-1688
www.shangri-la.com

The Peninsula Manila
Corner of Ayala and Makati Avenues, Makati City
Tel: 887 2888 Fax: 815 4825

Palm Plaza Hotel
Pedro Gil corner M. Adriatico Sts., Manil
Tel. 522-1000 Fax 525-8013
www.palmplazahotel.com

Pryce Plaza
Carmen Hill, Cagayan de Oro City Phil.
Tel. (088) 858-4536-37 Fax : (8822) 726687
Email: reservations@pryceplaza.ph

The Regent Hotel
Elias, Angeles St., Naga City
Tel. (6354) 4722626 / Fax (6354) 4722525

The Marco Polo
CM Recto St. Davao City 8000
Tel. (082) 221-0888/fax (082) 225-0111
www.marcopolohotels.com

Makati Palace Hotel
P. Burgos cor. Caceres St., Makati City
Tel (632)899-0344 / Fax (632) 896-9633
www.makatipalacehotel.com.ph
info@makatipalacehotel.com.ph

Summer Place Hotel
Km. 288 Marcos Highway, Baguio City
Tel. :(074) 446.0560, 446.5400-01
www.SummerPlaceBaguio.com

Ascott Makati
Glorietta 4, Ayala Center
Makati City, 1224 Phil.
Tel. (63.2) 729-8888 Fax (632) 728-0000
www.the-ascott.com

Somerset Salcedo, Makati
H.V. dela Costa St., cor. L.P. Levista St., Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City
Tel. 888-6668 Fax: 888-6655

Somerset Millennium, Makati
No. 104 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, 1229 Makati City
Tel. 888-0505 Fax: 812-7721

Somerset Olympia, Makati
No. 7912, Makati Ave., 1220 Makati City
Tel. 812-1010 Fax: 818-8254

The Bellevue Manila
North Bridgeway, Northgate Alabang, Muntinlupa
Tel. (632) 771-8181/ Fax (632) 771-8282
www.thebellevue.com

Waterfront Hotel Lahug
1 Salinas Drive, Lahug Cebu City
Tel. (6332) 232-6888/Fax (6332)232-6880
www.waterfronthotels.net

ASB Condotels
Tel. 631-6666 Fax 6375474
www.asbgroup.com.ph

Prince Plaza II
101 Dela Rosa St.
Legaspi Village
Makati City
840-3215

BSA Mansion
108 Benavidez St
Legaspi Village
Makati City
812-2671

Asian Mansion II
107 Dela Rosa St.
Legaspi Village
Makati City
844-9061

Garden Heights
269 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave.
New Manila, Quezon City
723-9181

Camp John Hay Manor
Loakan Road, Baguio City
Tel. (074) 446-0231 to 50

Century Park Hotel
599 P. Ocampo St. Malate, Manila Tel. 528-8888
Telefax 528-1811
information@centurypark.com.ph

City Garden Suites
1158A Mabini St., Ermita, Manila
Tel. 536-1451 Fax. 524-4844
cityreservations@citygardenhotels.com

Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila
ADB Avenue cor. Ortigas Avenue, Pasig City Tel. 633-7222
www.ichotelsgroup.com

Discovery Suites
25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. 683 8222 Fax 683 8111
www.discoverysuites.com.ph

Dusit Hotel Nikko
Ayala Center, 1223 Makati City Phil.
Tel. 867-3333
dusitmnl@dusit.com
http://manila.dusit.com

Edsa Shangri-la Manila
1 Garden Way, Ortigas Center, Manila Tel. 633-8888
www.shangri-la.com

Grand Boulevard Hotel
1990 Roxas Boulevard, P.O. Box 776 Manila 1057, Phil.
Tel.526 85 88 Fax 526 17 01
www.grandhotelmanila.com

Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila
1588 Pedro Gil corner M.H. del Pilar, Malate, Manila 1004
Tel. 245 1234
Fax 247 8688
manila.casino.hyatt.com

Manila Pavilion
UN Ave., corner Maria Orosa St., Manila
Tel. 526-1212 / Fax: 526-2552
www.manilapavilion.com.ph

The Malayan Plaza Quantum Serviced Suites
ADB Avenue cor. Opal Road
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. 706-0055 Fax 635-2969
www.quantumsuites.com

Mandarin Oriental Manila
Paseo de Roxas cor. Makati Ave.
Makati City
Tel. 750-8888
www.mandarinoriental.com

La Union Country Resort Hotel, Inc.
Sevilla, City of San Fernando, La Union Phil.
Tel. (072)242-5621
Fax. (072) 242-5631
www.oasiscountryresort.com
oasis@sflu.com

Oxford Suites Makati Hotel
Durban cor P. Burgos Streets, Makati City
Tel. 899 7888 Fax: 899 6891
www.oxfordsuitesmakati.com

Parque Espana Alabang
5309 East Asia Drive, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City 1781
Tel. 850-5880 to 81/ 850-5847
parqueespana@hli.com.ph
www.hospitalityinc.com.ph/parque

The Pearl Manila Hotel
General Luna Street cor. Taft & UN Ave. 1000 Ermita, Manila
Tel. 400-00-88 Fax: 400-00-77

Renaissance Makati City Hotel
Esperanza St. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. 811-6888/Fax 811-6777
www.marriott.com

Richmonde Hotel
21 San Miguel Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel.638-7777 Fax 638-8567
trh@richmondehotel.com.ph
www.richmondehotel.com

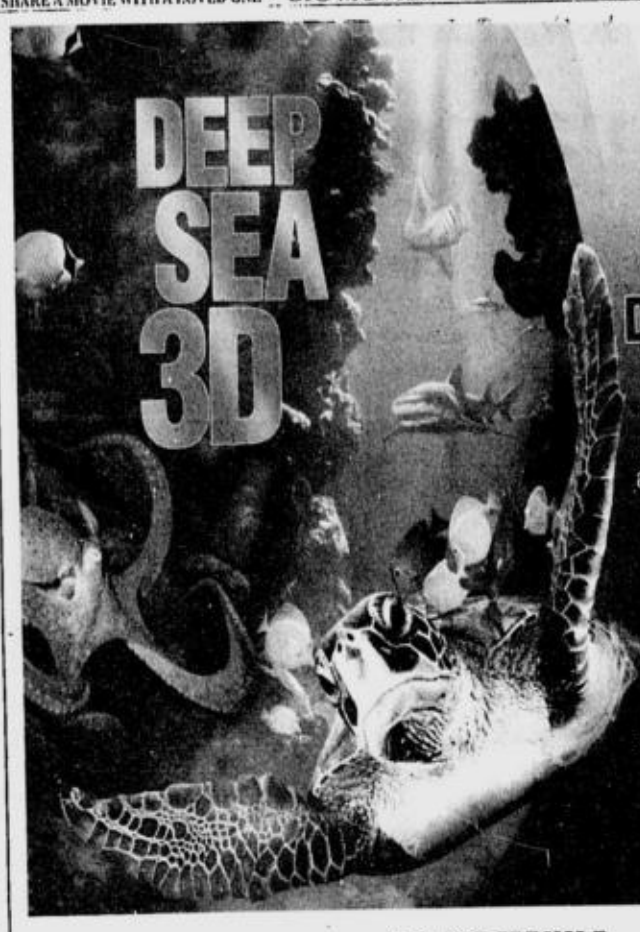
Subic International Hotel
Subic Bay, Free Port Zone, Olongapo City
Tel. 243-2222 / Fax 243-0852
www.subichotel.com

The Sulo Hotel
Matalino Road, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. 924-5051 to 71
Fax 922-2030
frontoffice@sulohotel.com.ph
www.sulohotel.com.ph

Taal Vista Hotel
Managed by Fuego Hotels & Properties
Km. 60 Aguinaldo Highway, Tagaytay City
Tel. 886-4325, (6346) 413-1000
taalvista@fuegohotels.com

Conway's Conway's Bar 813 8888 ext. 7026
Mey Lin Mey Lin Pot & Noodle House 899 6688 / 899 8999
Tony Roma's Tony Roma's Restaurants 757 1926 / 771 1388
Island Island Foot & Body Wellness 899 1234 / 751 8296
Cafe Mediterranean Greenbelt 894-4032
Bo's Coffee Club
The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf
Causeway Seafood Restaurant 24 Timog Ave, Q.C. 376-2559
Clawdaddy Crabhouse and American Grill 636-5679
Heaven 'n Eggs (02) 818-2792 (02) 889-3791
Kalye Juan 0920-94-kalye
Tong Yang Tong Yang Shabu-Shabu & BBQ Restaurant 899 3388 / 897 4148
Palaisdaan Restaurant Barangay Dapdap, Tayabas, Quezon (042) 793-3529
Lola Maria Coffeeshop 60 Pioneer St. Mandaluyong City 633-1501 to 10
FJ's Grill 24 Timog Ave, Q.C. 376-2559
The Old Spaghetti House 687-6630
North Park 73737
MUSEUM CAFÉ Ayala Museum, Greenbelt 4 757-3000 757-6000
Sushi-Ya Sushi-Ya 0917-84-sushi
Chelsea Chelsea Market & Cafe 909-7011 909-7012

SM CINEMA
movietime SHOWTIME
VISIT WWW.SMCINEMA.COM
* Powered by WWW.YEHEY.COM
Your life as a movie
SHARE A MOVIE WITH A LOVED ONE
BIG MOVIES • BIG STARS • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS



SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
NOW SHOWING
DEEP SEA 3D
Explore the depths of the sea and experience the captivating colors and the exciting drama of marine life.
TICKETS at P 250
Please call
556-IMAX (4629) or 556-0242
for inquiries and reservations,
or email us at imax@smcinema.com
Panasonic ideas for life

METRO MANILA

SM MALL OF ASIA 556-0104
SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
DEEP SEA 3D Admission Price: P250
11:30 AM • 2:30PM • 4:00 PM • 7:00 PM • 8:00PM
T-REX 3D Admission Price: P200
1:30 PM • 5:30PM
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 1408
3 INVASION
4 LAST LEGION
5 DON'T LOOK BACK/ GANDHI, MY FATHER
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
PREMIERE CINEMA
A LOVE STORY
CENTERSTAGE
EVAN ALMIGHTY
DIRECTOR'S CLUB
Bookings now accepted. Inquire at 556-2314.
THE PODIUM
CINEMA 1
1408
CINEMA 2
INVASION
For ticket reservation, dial 6338976

SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452
1 INVASION
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 1408
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 A LOVE STORY
6 LAST LEGION
7 RUSH HOUR 3
8 MY KUYA'S WEDDINGh
9 RISE
10 HAIR SPRAY
11 1408
12 INVASION

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901
1 HAIRSPRAY
2 INVASION
3 1408
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 THE LAST LEGION
6 BLADES OF GLORY
7 RISE
8 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
9 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
10 A LOVE STORY
11 RUSH HOUR 3
12 DON'T LOOK BACK

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749
1 1408
2 HAIR SPRAY
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 LAST LEGION
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 OUIJA
7 INVASION
8 A LOVE STORY
9 EVAN ALMIGHTY
10 RUSH HOUR 3
11 DON'T LOOK BACK
12 RISE

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416
1 INVASION
2 1408
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
5 A LOVE STORY
6 RISE
7 LAST LEGION
8 DON'T LOOK BACK
9 RUSH HOUR 3
10 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488
1 1408
2 INVASION
3 LAST LEGION
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 A LOVE STORY

SM SOUTHMALL 806-6888
1 1408
2 A LOVE STORY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 INVASION
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
7 RUSH HOUR 3
8 LAST LEGION
9 DON'T LOOK BACK

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055
1 INVASION
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 1408
4 LAST LEGION

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 1408
4 LAST LEGION
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
6 INVASION
7 RISE
8 BLADES OF GLORY
9 A LOVE STORY
10 DON'T LOOK BACK
11 HAIRSPRAY
12 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4323281-84
1 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 1408

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917
1 1408
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 A LOVE STORY

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975
1 1408
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 INVASION
4 LAST LEGION

SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868
1 DON'T LOOK BACK
2 1408
3 INVASION
4 A LOVE STORY
5 LAST LEGION
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
7 EVAN ALMIGHTY
8 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45
1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 INVASION
4 A LOVE STORY
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 1408

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17
1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

LUZON

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 BLIND DATING

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)9037681-85
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 1408
3 INVASION
4 OUIJA
5 A LOVE STORY
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY LIPA (043) 784-0187
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 A LOVE STORY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 1408

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3160
1 1408
2 A LOVE STORY
3 INVASION
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5349811
1 A LOVE STORY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 RISE

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 1408
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 RISE

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422
1 LICENSE TO WED
2 SINKING OF JAPAN
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 A LOVE STORY
5 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY
7 RESERVED
8 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876
1 INVASION
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 1408
5 SIGNOS
6 A LOVE STORY
7 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
8 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY BACOLOD (034) 708 1010
1 A LOVE STORY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 LICENSE TO WED

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

POWER PLANT CINEMA
ROCKWELL CENTER, MAKATI TEL: 898-1440/41
DOLBY DIGITAL

1408 PG13 1:40,3:50,6:00, 8:10,10:20	HAIRSPRAY G 12:40,3:05,5:30, 7:55,10:20	EVAN ALMIGHTY G 1:40,3:50,6:00, 8:10,10:20
LAST LEGION 12:50,3:15,5:40, 8:05,10:30	BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13 2:30,5:00,7:30,10:00	THE INVASION PG13 1:10,3:30,5:50, 8:10,10:30

MOVIES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 INVASION MTRCB PG-13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
2 1408 MTRCB PG-13 12:10, 2:30 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY MTRCB GP 12:40,3:00 5:20,7:40,10:00
4 HAIRSPRAY MTRCB PG-13 11:30, 2:00 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
PREMIERE THEATRE BOURNE ULTIMATUM (PG-13) 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice
Catch the Cineplex Special
A Blockbuster Gift for all Season
The Shang Cineplex Gift Certificates
Treat your family and friends to a thrilling movie experience only at the shang
Cinema Treats- for Cinemas 1, 2, 3, and 4
Premiere Rewards- for the Premiere Theatre
6th floor, Shangri-La Plaza Mall EDSA corner Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Call 633-7851, loc. 171/ 170 or 633-2227 for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

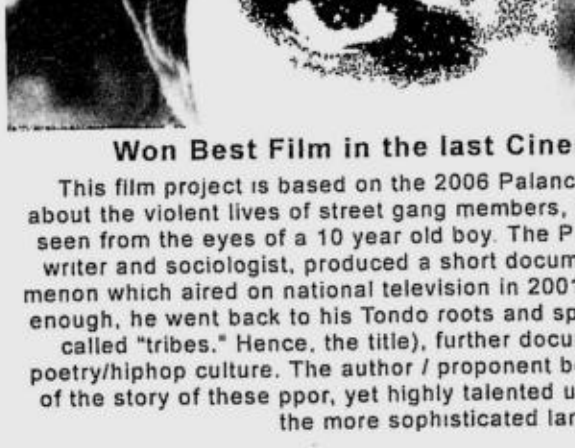
GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA
THEATRE-MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1 EVAN ALMIGHTY // HAIRSPRAY 11:10, 1:20, 3:30 //5:30,7:50,10:10 GP
CINEMA 2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING 11:10, 1:35, 4:00 6:25, 8:50 GP
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX
PROMENADE GREENHILLS
...a dinetertainment for all!
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 3 1408 11:00, 1:20, 3:40 6:00, 8:20, 10:35 PG-13
CINEMA 4 THE LAST LEGION 11:10, 2:00, 4:50 7:40, 10:30 PG-13
CINEMA 5 THE INVASION 10:30, 12:50, 3:10 5:30, 7:50, 10:10 PG-13
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.
MUSIC MUSEUM
TEATRO PROMENADE GREENHILLS

September 15, 2007	Rico J. w/ Ruffa Mae	8:00 PM
September 22, 2007	Jett Pangan, Michael De Mesa, Ricky Davao	8:00 PM
September 29, 2007	Sugarfree	8:00 PM
October 08 & 09 2007	"Alamat" Stageplay	
Aug. 31, Sept. 7, 21, 28, 2007	Drag - Ons	10:00 PM
Aug. 30, Sept. 5,12,19,26, 2007	Cerrudo Classico	8:00 PM

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

TUNDO, MATNILA

Won Best Film in the last Cinemalaya Film Competition
This film project is based on the 2006 Palanca Award winning scrrenplay, "Tribu", about the violent lives of street gang members, young urban hiphop poets in Tondo, as seen from the eyes of a 10 year old boy. The Proponent, a broadcast journalist, poet, writer and sociologist, produced a short documentray on this hiphop/gangsta phenomenon which aired on national television in 2001. But sensing that the TV feature is not enough, he went back to his Tondo roots and spent more time with various gangs (also called "tribes." Hence, the title), further documenting their experiences and street poetry/hiphop culture. The author / proponent believes that complexities and subtleties of the story of these ppor, yet highly talented urban youth can only truly be told using the more sophisticated language of cinema.
watch this only at Robinsons Movieworld Galleria
AUGUST 29 to SEPTEMBER 11
INDIESINE

"A scrumptious, romantic comedy for dreamers" LA Times
"An irresistible helping of delicious fun" USA Today
WAITRESS
Love doesn't take orders.


www.foxsearchlight.com

NOW SHOWING
EXCLUSIVELY AT
Gateway CINEPLEX*10
gatewaycineplex10.com
Enjoy truly world-class, state-of-the-art movie experience at popular prices
For ticket inquiries, call 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph or www.aranetacenter.net

THE FIRST Gentleman (right) with son, Mikey.

Dinner at Mickey's

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

ONE RAINY NIGHT, the group of Women in Media's "Bulong Pulungan at Sofitel Philippine Plaza" was invited to dinner at Mickey's Bar & Grill at No. 8 Hobbies of Asia, Macapagal blvd., Pasay City, hosted by First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, who looked great after losing a lot of weight. With his new, healthy lifestyle, he looks calmer and at peace.

The place—a partnership among horse owners, Rep. Mikey Arroyo, Antonio Eleazar, Alvin Ferreras, Dodong Atienza and Michael So—can seat as many as 80 people and offers Filipino and Spanish cuisine.

Favorite dishes

Favorite dishes include *bacalao a la Viscayna* with tomato sauce, *paella, callos, lengua, pata estofado, picadillo,* beef *albondigas* soup, *cochinillo* (roast baby pig), and deep-fried garlic or sweet chili crab. It also offers *tapang kabayo* for pulutan.

Seasoned manager Rochelle Mescallado has had stints with Starbucks, Casa Armas and Pancakes (call 556-1292 to 93, or text 0916 398-9193).

Between dishes, the First Gentleman narrated his near-death experience and sang praises to his doctor, St. Luke Hospital's Dr. Carino, who connected two vital tubes in his heart. He said he was minutes away from death when the physician found the link.

The First Gentleman said daughter Luli watches over him like a hawk, while undersecretary Juris Soliman makes sure that he strictly follows his health regimen.

The nature of beauty

LOTUS POND

R. Valencia and S. Bismark

THE VEDAS REveal the wonderful nature of the Supreme Being:

His face is as beautiful as the moon; his broad chest is like a doorway. The luster of jewels on His chest is as bright as the stars in the sky.

His youth, combined with His smile, outshines even the moon's beauty. Indeed, He's very attractive to women. His beauty is so great there's no need for Him to wear ornaments. Instead, it's His beauty that enhances them.

Features

A great personality once remarked: "His brows are like the brows of Cupid, and they move as though they were dancing. The tips of His nails are soft—like dried bamboo leaves."

His mild smile resembles the newly grown lotus flower. His enchanting songs mesmerize listeners. His dancing eyes have dimmed the brilliance of even the most expert dancer.

The Supreme Being is a magnet in whichever direction He moves. Sincere, loving souls are drawn to his magnetic force.

So, open up your heart to His beauty and love!

Two viewing treats for the price of one

ON SEPT. 14 AND 15, THE KAISA PARA SA Kaunlaran Foundation is staging "Kaisa Ka," a glittering and kaleidoscopic musical revue about the Filipino-Chinese experience in the Philippines. The exciting and moving show will be performed at Kaisa's own theater in Intramuros.

To make the fundraising event even more significant, Kaisa is offering two viewing treats for the price of one: Theater patrons who arrive an hour or two before the performance may also experience the richness of Kaisa's acclaimed museum on Chinese-Filipino life, free of charge.

ABOVE, "Kaisa Ka" cast members perform the show's haunting "Incantation" number. At left, Daphne Chiu and Sherwin Sozon.

Perfect combination

The "two-fer" offer is deemed a perfect combination, because the Kaisa museum provides a detailed primer and backgrounder that should enhance viewers' appreciation of the "Kaisa Ka" show. Call 527-6083, 482-0512, or e-mail kaisadotcom@yahoo.com.

Kaisa's fundraising presentation is shaping up as a major event on Chinese-Filipinos' cultural calendar for the year, with pillars of the community enthusiastically supporting and even involving themselves as performers in the show.

Presentation

The presentation topbills gifted Chinese-Filipino talents Sherwin Sozon, Daphne Chiu, Helen Benoza, Eva Marie Poon, Chak Chi Ang, Paul Kelvin Ong, Lizbeth Valerie Yap, Lorraine Teng, Edwin Tan and Robbie Feliongco, ably supported by leading musical-theater lights, Andy Bais, Rito Asilo, Nelson Caruncho, Estanislao Alinea, Jan Alexander, Russel Magno and Cecil, Roy, Roychelle and Mica Torre.

Songs and musical arrangement and direction are by Jun Murillo, with lyrics by Torre, Asilo and Noelani Torre. Sets are by Leo Rialp, and lights by Martin Esteva.

Silent Film Festival...

From page G6

strangers in Los Angeles.

The Jewel Sisters

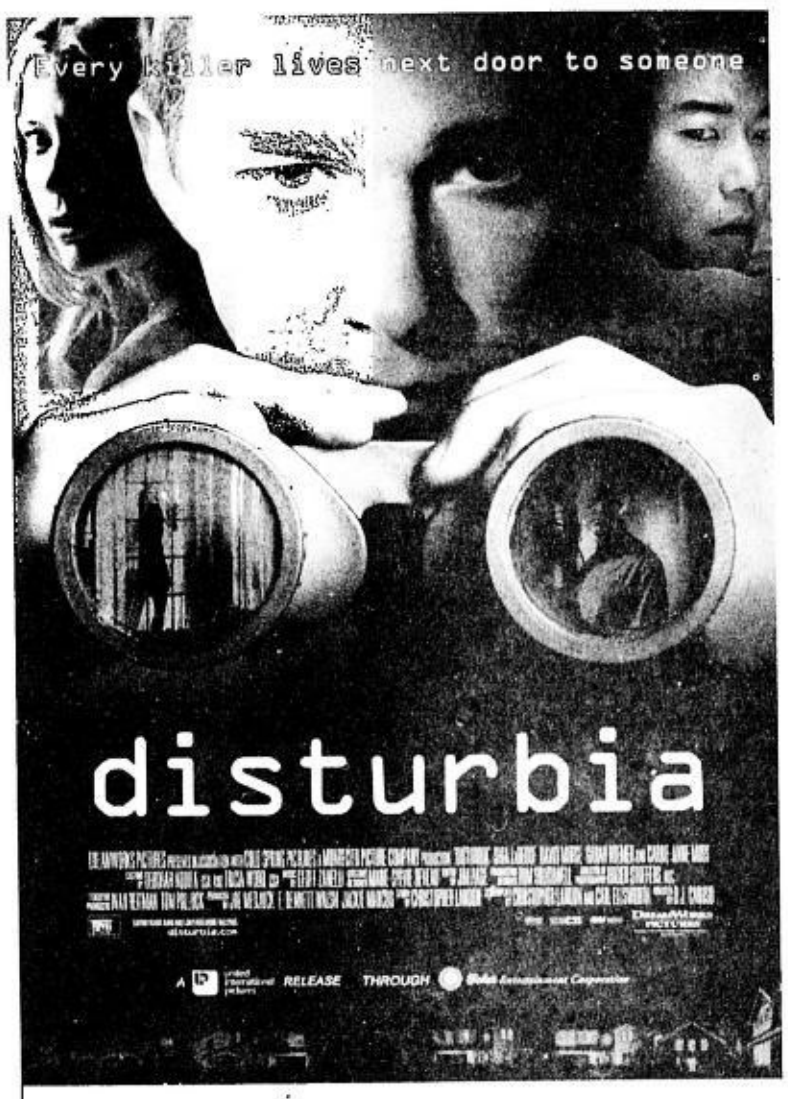
ABS-CBN's newest soap, "Pangarap na Bituin," debuts on Sept. 3 and tells the story of the Jewel Sisters, Ruby, Sapphire and Emerald, who rise above a tragic past to triumphantly fulfill their dreams.

Book Fair

Ongoing until tomorrow at the World Trade Center is the 20th Manila International Book Fair. Organized by Primetrade Asia, the fair has over 300 exhibitors.

At Starmall Edsa

All Saturdays of September from 10 to 11 a.m. the Gym Plus Health and Fitness Center holds a Dance Aero Circuit Class, designed to develop different components of physical fitness.



IN THEATERS SEPTEMBER 5

MTRCB PG-13 RATING | Children below 13 yrs old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

Albums

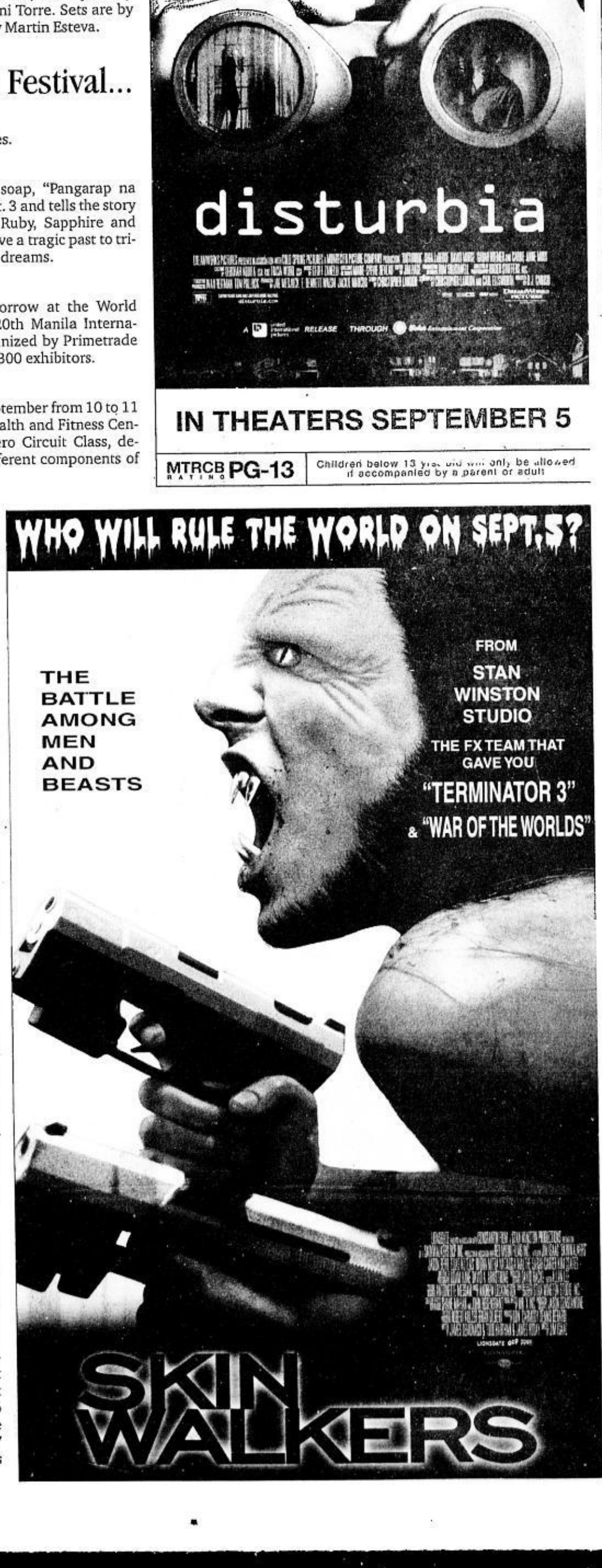
John Prats' "Dancefloor Dynamite" CD has 13 lively tracks, from "Dabbi Doo" by NN through "Mr. Tambourine Man" by Dance Floor Saints," to "Sohnya" by Juggy D.

Julio Iglesias' latest album, "Romantic Classics," features the best-selling Latin singer's duet with Lea Salonga on "All of You," which originally had Diana Ross as his singing partner, Other cuts feature guests artists like ace trumpet player Chris Botti and saxophonist Dave Koz. Log on to www.sonybmg.com.ph.

Movies on TV

On HBO today at 7 p.m., "Shakespeare in Love." Tomorrow at 7 p.m., "Pride and Prejudice." Sept. 3 at 7 p.m., "Lemony Snicketts." Sept. 4 at 9 p.m., "Freedomland." Sept. 5 at 7 p.m., "Black Beauty." Sept. 6 at noon, "My Stepmother Is An Alien." Sept. 7 at noon, "Selena."

On Cinemax today at 11 p.m., "Apollo 13." Tomorrow at 1:40 p.m., "Barbarians at the Gates." Sept. 3 at 3:25 p.m., "Chameleon." Sept. 4 at 7 p.m., "Chinatown." Sept. 5 at 3:15 p.m., "Breakfast at Tiffany's." Sept. 6 at 11 a.m., "Treasure Island." Sept. 7 at 7 p.m., "Memphis Belle."



ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA — Ticket Price THX: P160 130 Indie Sine: 100 632-9118

1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM • THX
12:20 2:40 5:00 7:20 9:40

2 1408
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

3 indieSine: TRIBU
1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00

4 THE INVASION
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

6 RUSH HOUR 3
1:00 2:55 4:50

7 DON'T LOOK BACK
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

8 A LOVE STORY
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

9 EVAN ALMIGHTY
1:50 3:50 5:50 7:50 9:50

10 THE LAST LEGION
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

watch it only at Robinsons Movieworld Galleria AUGUST 29 to September 11

ERMITA — Ticket Price: P110 / P120

1 THE INVASION
12:35 3:00 5:25 7:45 10:00

2 DON'T LOOK BACK
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

3 THE LAST LEGION
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:20 10:00

4 1408
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

5 A LOVE STORY
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

7 RUSH HOUR 3 12:00 2:00 4:00
EVAN ALMIGHTY 6:00 8:00 10:00

METRO EAST — Ticket Price: P100 / P120 Tel: 642-3103, 642-3199

1 DON'T LOOK BACK
12:50 2:50 4.50 6:50 9:00

2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
11:05 1:35 4:05 6.35 9:05

3 A LOVE STORY
10:35 1:05 3.45 6:25 9:05

4 THE INVASION
11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05

5 EVAN ALMIGHTY 11:00 1:00 3:00
BOURNE ULTIMATUM 4:50 7:00 9:10

6 HAIRSPRAY 11:00 1:00 3:00
RUSH HOUR 3 5:00 7:00 9.00

7 1408
11:30 1:55 4:20 6:45 9:10

8 THE LAST LEGION
11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05

NOVALICHES — Ticket Price: P100 / P120 Tel: 935-3231 / 935-3229-30

1 A LOVE STORY
2 THE INVASION
3 1408
4 DON'T LOOK BACK
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

PIONEER — Tel: 687-3578

1 THE LAST LEGION
1.40 4:00 6:20 8.40

2 THE INVASION
1:40 4.00 6:20 8:40

3 1408
1:10 3:35 6:00 8:25

4 DON'T LOOK BACK
12.05 2:15 4:25 6:05

STA. ROSA — Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (049) 837-0907

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 RISE
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 A LOVE STORY

LIPA — Ticket Price: P90 (043) 757-3864 (043) 312-5470

1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 A LOVE STORY

DASMARIÑAS — Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (046) 416-4332

1 DON'T LOOK BACK
2 A LOVE STORY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
5 1408

IMUS — Ticket Price: P100 (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 DON'T LOOK BACK
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 THE INVASION
4 1408
5 A LOVE STORY

ANGELES — Ticket Price: P 90 / P80 (045) 892-2348

1 1408
2 A LOVE STROY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 THE INVASION

TARLAC

1 A LOVE STORY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

STARMILLS — Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (046) 875-1921

1 1408
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 THE INVASION
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
6 RUSH HOUR 3

BACOLOD — Ticket Price: P70 (034) 441-0459

1 LICENSE TO WED
2 RISE
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 A LOVE STORY
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY / BOURNE ULTIMATUM

ILOILO — Ticket Price: P70.50 / P80.50 (033) 336-8070

1 LICENSE TO WED
2 A LOVE STORY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 THREE
5 SINKING of JAPAN
6 RISE

NO.1 IN MALAYSIA, BRUNEI AND SINGAPORE

Don't Look Back

Pierre Andre Intan Ladyana Rio Eliani Khatijah Tan

This horrifying and mysterious story is about a young man named Darma (Pierre Andre) who attempts to know the cause of death of Rose, his fiancee (Intan Ladyana), who was found dead in mysterious circumstances. Darma must now work with Rose's twin sister Seri to solve the mystery behind the death.
They begin their investigation with a visit to Rose's house, where Darma finds a bottle, and Rose's digital camera, which only deepens the mystery.
Bringing these unusual evidences home, Dharma finds himself facing horrifying events that flings his life into chaos.
Given a vacation by his boss (Jalaludin Hassan) at work, Darma seeks the help of his aunt Mak Lang (Khatijah Tan), who lives with her daughter Lin (Rio Eliani).
At Kampung, Darma and Seri discover the shocking truth that whatever happens, they should never dare LOOK BACK, because when life meets death, anything can happen!

now showing at all
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

Silent Film Festival at Greenbelt 3

MONTAGE

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL SILENT FILM Festival will unreel at 8 p.m. on Sept. 4 at Cinema 2, Greenbelt 3 with German director Lotte Reiniger's 1926 film, "The Adventures of Prince Achmed." On Sept. 10, catch Spanish filmmaker Nenesio Sobrevilla's 1929 production, "The Sixth Sense." And, on Sept. 13, the festival closes with the Japanese film, "A Monster Serpent." Call 811-6155 to 58, or visit www.jfmo.org.ph.

Nickelodeon 'invades' Bacolod City

Nick Takes Over Your School "invades" Bacolod City's St. Scholastica's Academy on Sept. 6 and St. John's Institute on Sept. 7. There will be seven ways to have fun with games of slime and goo—from making "splatwiches" in the crazy cafeteria and doing the "Dough Nut Run" to making it to the "Best Messed List."

Aside from prizes and slime, students can look forward to a surprise visit from their favorite Nicktoon. Nickelodeon will also teach students to become helpers and heroes with the Big Help campaign. Log on to nicksplat.com

Marc Nelson for Kenny Rogers

NELSON. Health and wellness buff.

Marc Nelson puts a premium on health and wellness, so he insists that the food he eats should be tasty and nutritious. He prefers dishes that are roasted and grilled rather than fried, like Kenny Rogers' Roast Chicken with a serving of corn and carrots—his favorite!

Marc also dotes on the Roast Chicken Sandwich, which he avails of at any of Kenny Rogers' 36 branches, or by calling 533-8888 for delivery. He shares: "Kenny Rogers offers the convenience of a fast food, but it has delectable fare that's both affordable and nutritious."

Candle design competition

Doc's Candles marks its 10th anniversary this year with "Kandila Mo, Kandila Ko," a competition involving designs in any medium that can be translated to wax in three categories—Wax Lantern, Hurricane Candle and Pillar Candle. Over P1000,000 in prize money and products await winners. Call 312-6131, or log on to www.docscandles.com.

Eladio Pamaran

The Music School of Ryan Cayabyab (637-9840) invites you to a seminar workshop with international musical theater personality, Eladio Pamaran, on Sept. 8, with two time slots to choose from: 1-4 p.m. or 5-8 p.m.

Titled "The Singing Body," the seminar delves into how a singer can be comfortable in his body and move with ease, thereby making his performance felt. The Music School also offers courses in guitar, drums, tap dance, jazz dance and *qigong*, aside from voice and piano.

Extraordinary women on 'Oprah'

On Hallmark, "The Oprah Winfrey Show" highlights some extraordinary women's inspiring stories: Sept. 9 at 8 p.m., Oprah talks to singers Mary J. Blige, Corinne Bailey Rae and Carly Simon. Sept. 16, guests include Annette Bening.

Sept. 22 at 3 p.m., Sarah Jessica Parker and Victoria Nagan talk fashion and home design. At 8 p.m., Oprah features "maturing" women Diahann Carroll, Geena Davis and Nora Ephron. Sept. 30, the focus is on "Hairspray" stars Michelle Pfeiffer, Nikki Blonsky and Queen Latifah.

On MGM Channel

This month, watch out for these movie treats: Sept 6 at 9 p.m., "Poltergeist 2: The Other Side." Sept. 11 at 9 p.m., "State of Grace." Sept. 14 at 9 p.m., "Married to the Mob," with Michelle Pfeiffer, Matthew Modine and Dean Stockwell. Sept. 15 at 9 p.m., "Blown Away," with Jeff Bridges and Tommy Lee Jones. And Sept. 16 at 9 p.m., "Desperate Hours," with Mickey Rourke, Mimi Rogers, Kelly Lynch and Anthony Hopkins.

Soundtrack

"Transformers—The Album" contains the hit film's soundtrack, a groovy lineup of current modern rock and hard rock bands, led by Linkin Park and its new single, "What I've Done." Other rock hits are from the Smashing Pumpkins, The Used, Disturbed and Idiot Pilot.

Dance album

"Sitti in the Mix" is the No. 1 dance album on Music One. Subtitled "The Denise Modesto Remixes," the album's first single is "I Didn't Know I was Looking for Love."

'As You Like It'

Jose Estrella directs the latest staging of William Shakespeare's "As You Like It,' Dulaang UP's second offering for its 32nd season, starting today until Sept. 21 at the Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater, UP Diliman, Quezon City. The play will run alternately with its Filipino version, "Paano Man Ang Pag-ibig," using Rolando Tinio's translation. Call Jo-Anne Quiros at 926-1349 or 981-8500 loc. 2449.

Bituin Escalante's 'Ur Luv Thang'

Grab your copy of acclaimed singer-actress Bituin Escalante's latest album, "Ur Luv Thang," a solid, 12-song blend of diverse musical tastes. Choice tracks include "Let Go," "Each Time We Say Goodbye," "Inconsiderate" and "Hurts So Bad."

On National Geographic Channel

Sept. 5 at 10 p.m., "Situation Critical: Hollywood Shootout" harks back to 1997, when two notorious criminals rob a Hollywood bank and hunker down for a protracted and violent shootout with cops.

Sept. 6 at 11 p.m., "I Didn't Know That" reveals the secrets of running a supermarket.

Sept. 13 at 9 p.m., "Megamovers: Deep Sea Drillers" focuses on a $2-billion operation to complete a 1,800 square mile gas network.

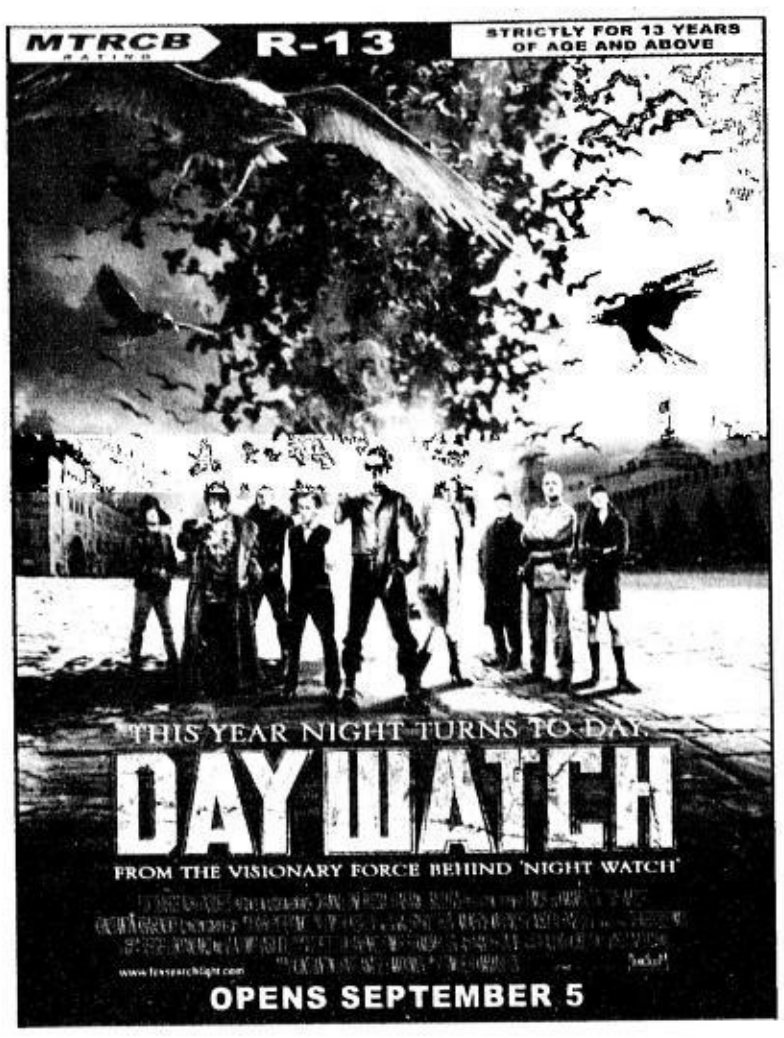
On DVD

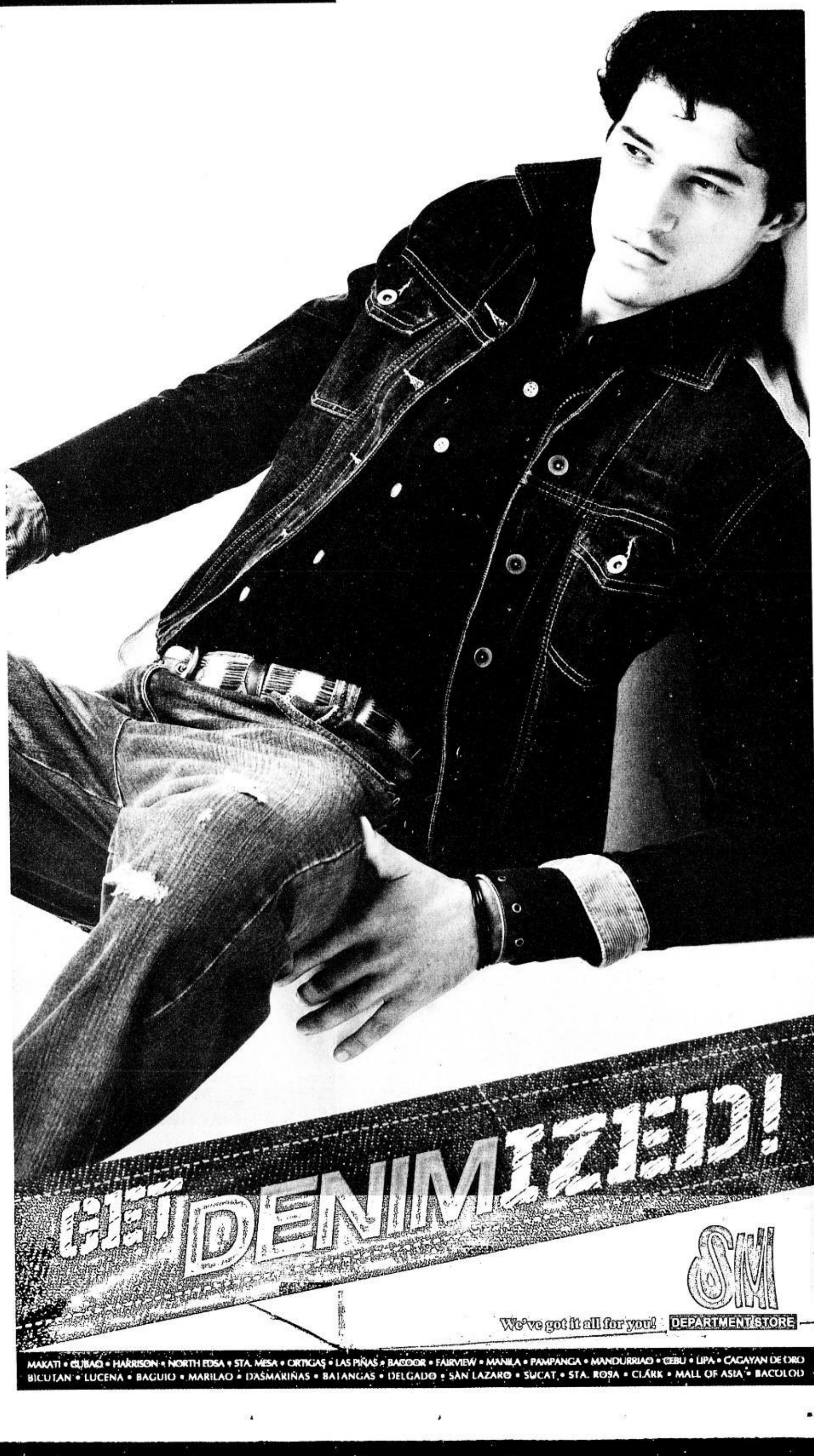
The hit film, "300," is available in four video configurations: a two-disc DVD with helmet, another in a steel case, a third with an artbook, and a two-disc VCD.

"Ask the Dust," starring Colin Farrell, Salma Hayek and Donald Sutherland, is a "hot-blooded" love story involving two

SILENT/ G5

DOC'S Candles are designed by Dr. Marichu Carstensen.





style • urban living • pop culture • entertainment • recreation

super

E-mail: super@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback: inquirer sup name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

The Block Party

There's no doubt about it: SM The Block has brought new life to SM North Edsa. It's not just home to a number of new shops, it is also a great place for great palate adventures: whether you're in the mood for big meals, Asian goodies, sinful desserts or coffee.

Around the World in 7 Plates

By Paolo R. Reyes
Photos by August dela Cruz

A MULTI-CULTURAL plate of dining experiences converge at The Block, where the super-sized offerings of the West meet with the savory delights of the East.

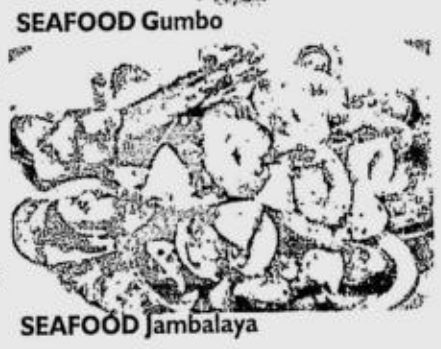
Gumbo

Hurricane Katrina may have wreaked havoc on the Crescent City of the American South, but New Orleans cuisine is alive and kicking in Gumbo—a family-style bistro that serves authentic Cajun and Creole dishes.

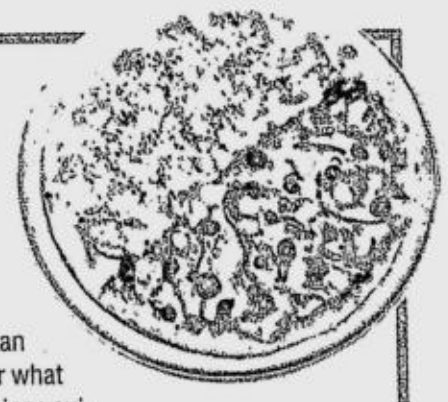
Surrounded by leather-upholstered furniture and antique fixtures, as the sweet sound of jazz wafts in the background, it's easy to imagine yourself in a streetside café of the French Quarter, as you feast on house favorites such as the Jambalaya (a paella-like dish using spicy seasoning) and the Seafood Gumbo (a thick stew with seafood, chicken, and rice).

You might hear the occasional "Ah! Jambalaya!" cry emanating from within the kitchen doors, but don't get weirded out. New Orleans tradition dictates that one must signal the serving of the Jambalaya with a chant.

SEAFOOD Gumbo


SEAFOOD Jambalaya

Napoli



Napoli, the bustling capital of Southern Italy, is widely regarded to be the birthplace of the pizza (the Pizza Margherita to be specific, a dish made in honor of Queen Margherita in 1889). Neapolitan food also formed the basis for what is now known as Italian-American cuisine.

Napoli Pizzeria & Ristorante, however, is all about New York City—as their graphic, urban-inspired interiors suggest. Since opening their first outlet in the Big Apple, the proprietors have brought their New York-style pizzeria to Manila, first in Tomas Morato and now at The Block. Aside from their large pizza servings (try their bestselling White Pizza), they also serve a mean Meatball Pasta, which goes well their wide assortment of hero sandwiches.

THE NEW York-inspired interiors of the pizzeria

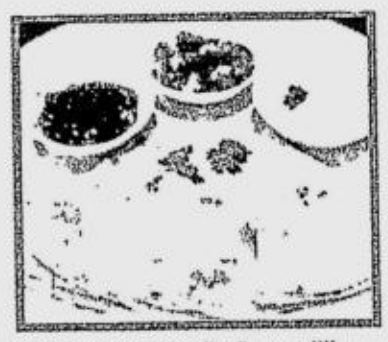
Burgoo

SEAFOOD Linguini

SUPREME

Famous for their hearty Western-style servings, Burgoo never disappoints when you're craving hot, supersized bits of American diner fare: steaks, burgers, pastas, and pizza.

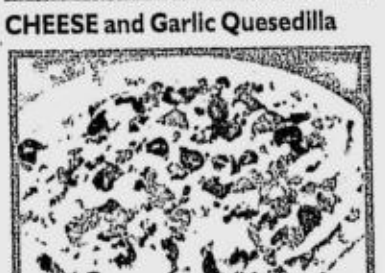
Burgoo, by definition is a 19th-century Kentuckian stew made with pork, chicken, beef, and vegetables, usually served during the annual Kentucky Derby. Faithful to their tagline ("Anything Goes"), dishes may be customized according to one's preference. But given the restaurant's diverse range of offerings, one will hardly ever need to modify what's on the menu. Go for their charbroiled Hamburgoo or gorge on one of their best-sellers—Shrimps and Ribs Platter, Fish and Chips, and Seafood Linguini. You can also go retro and order their historical Burgoo Stew.


CHEESE and Garlic Quesedilla

Mexicali

Already a household name to most mall-going Pinoys, Mexicali has lured burrito lovers and enchilada addicts since they opened their first Makati branch in the early 1990s. Now with seven outlets under their belt, Mexicali continues to deliver mouthwatering Mexican delights that are easy on the wallet, but wonderfully heavy on the stomach. Like the food, the restaurant's interiors are decidedly colorful, with eye-catching splashes of red, yellow, and green here and there.

You can start with the Mexicali Nachos and the Cheese and Garlic Quesadilla before moving to the burritos or enchiladas (covered with salsa ranchera, cheese, and sour cream) stuffed with your choice of chicken or beef. Surprisingly, they also have a vegetarian menu (upon request) which should definitely appease PETA and other meat-loathing types.


MEXICALI Nachos

GROUND Beef Burrito

CRISPY Binagoogan

BIBINGKA

OYSTERS half shell

Café Via Mare

In 1988, Glenda Baretto's seafood specialty restaurant, Via Mare, added another feather to its bejeweled cap by opening their new baby, Café Via Mare. The dining concept has been hailed as a pioneering attempt at creating a truly Filipino café for the middle-income market.

Maintaining its own kitchen, Café Via Mare copped a niche in the hearts of Filipino mallgoers with such comfort food favorites as *bibingka*, *puto bumbong*, *pancit luglog*, and *dinuguan*. They also serve a variety of baked oysters and innovative native treats such as Honey Beefsilog, Sizzling Balut, and Crunchy Boneless Dilis. This *balikbayan* favorite rarely disappoints.

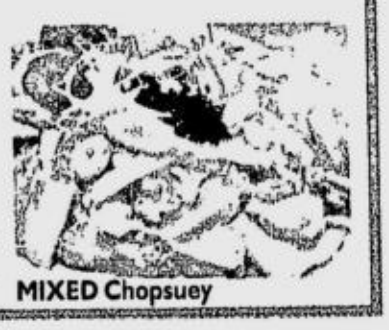
Aristocrat

They may have started out as a simple snack mobile in 1936, but Aristocrat has grown into one of the most successful Filipino restaurant chains. Their landmark Roxas Boulevard branch, which still stands today, introduced the public to their famous Chicken Barbecue.

Naturally, their décor revolves around a native motif, while the menu showcases the best of Filipino cooking through such traditional fare as *sinigang*, crispy *pata*, *kare-kare*, *pancit canton*, and *dinuguan*. Their honey-cured chicken, a house specialty, has been a favorite for generations. New recipes have also been introduced in the menu to satisfy the discriminating tastes of modern Pinoy diners.

KARE KARE

CHICKEN Barbecue


MIXED Chopsuey

Tender Bob's

STEAKS take centerstage in Tender Bob's

BABY Back Ribs

USDA Prime RIB EYE Roll

FULLY Loaded Pounder Burger

BEEF Salad

TOM YUM

PRAWNS with Pineapple Curry

SPRING Rolls

FISH Cake

Jatujak

The scene: Chef Supawadee Lungtip whips up authentic Thai dishes that will transport your tastebuds to Thailand. **Best-sellers:** Pad Thai, Chicken Pandan, Bagoong Rice, Thai Iced Tea, Fresh Vegetarian Spring Rolls **Must-try:** Beef Salad, Fish Cake, Prawns with Pineapple Curry, Tom Yum, Crispy Catfish Salad **Operating hours:** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

An Asian tour for your palate

By Pam Pastor

From Nasi Goreng and Pad Thai to Kani Salad and Hainanese Chicken, SM The Block has enough restaurants to satisfy your Asian food cravings. Get a taste of Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Thailand and China—no plane ticket required

SEAFOOD set

MEAT set

JAPANESE Halo Halo

VEGETABLE set

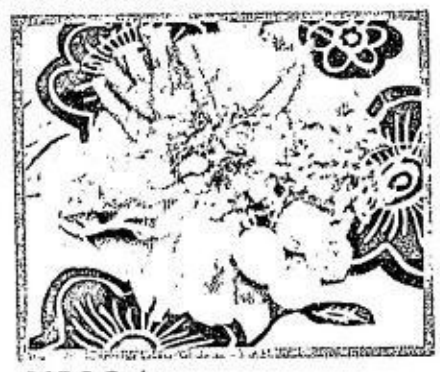
NASI Goreng

SATAY Ayam (chicken sate)

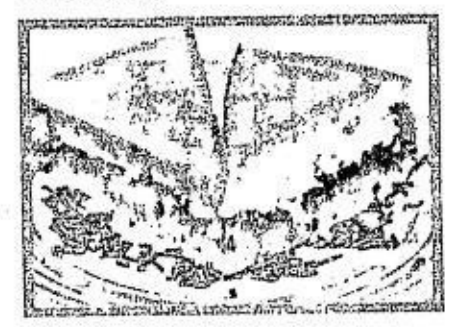
Martabak

The scene: Run by the people behind Matahari (those kiosks that sell all kinds of Indonesian snacks), Martabak serves authentic Indonesian cuisine adjusted just a tad to suit the Pinoy palate. Owner Loida Magpayo, who lived in Indonesia for six years, said, "All our ingredients are flown in from Indonesia—even our flour, our tea, our coffee beans."

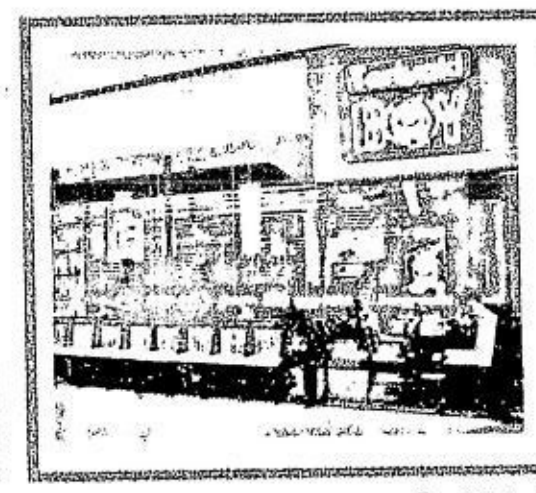
Best-sellers: Gado Gado (vegetable salad in peanut sauce), Beef Rendang (which Loida calls the "Indonesian kaldereta"), Sop Buntut (Oxtail Soup), Prawns in Sambal Sauce and the Martabak (their version of bibingka), of course **Must-try:** Nasi Goreng (fried rice), Mie Goreng (fried noodles) and Satay Ayam (chicken sate) **Operating hours:** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.



GADO Gado



MARTABAK



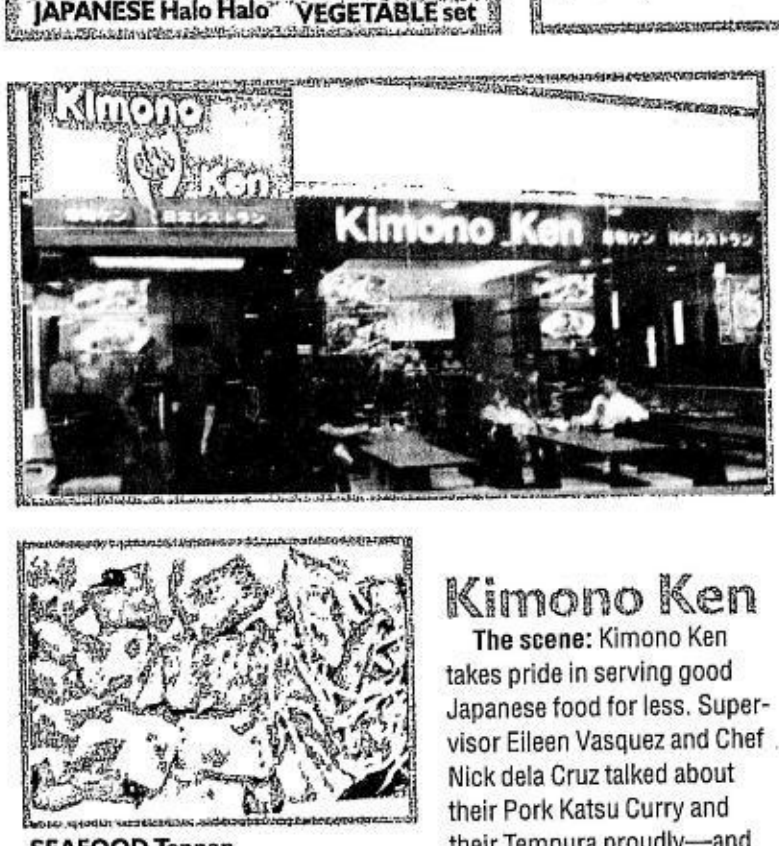
Teriyaki Boy

The scene: Japanese food served quick, fresh and hot in a casual and relaxed setting. Their Teriyaki Boy Chicken, which is boneless and flavorful, is a big hit. **Best-sellers:** Kani Salad, California Maki, Teriyaki Boy Chicken, Tofu Steak **Must-try:** Gyu-Saikono Steak, Pork Samurai, Yaki Soba **Operating hours:** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

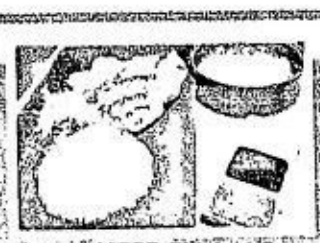
CALIFORNIA Maki

TERIYAKI Boy Chicken

TOFU Steak



SPAGHETTI with Thai Sweet Chili Paste



HAINANESE Chicken Set

PENANG Spicy Prawns

Banana Leaf Asian Curry

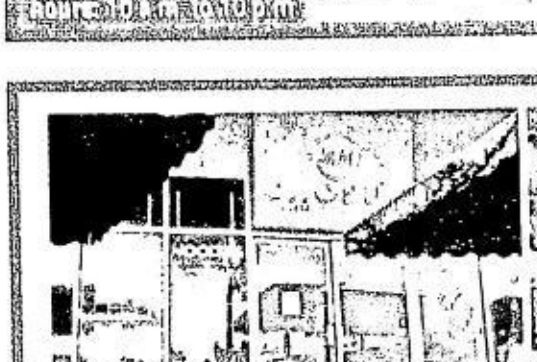
SEAFOOD Teppan

Kimono Ken

The scene: Kimono Ken takes pride in serving good Japanese food for less. Supervisor Eileen Vasquez and Chef Nick dela Cruz talked about their Pork Katsu Curry and their Tempura proudly—and for good reason. They'd have people coming back for more. **Best-sellers:** Chicken Teriyaki Salad, Seafood Teppan, Mixed Tempura, Yaki Soba, **Must-try:** Chef Rodel Villanueva's Kani Salad Maki **Operating hours:** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m..

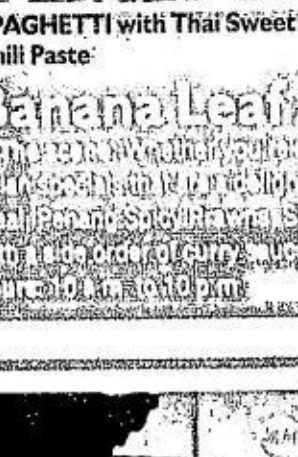
PORK Katsu Curry

KANI Salad Maki



ANGUS Beef Bbq with Lettuce

CHAP Chae



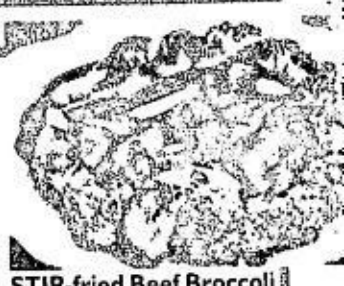
FISH Fillet Bake

Chosun

The scene: Korean invasion in another form—great food. **Best-sellers:** Chap Chae (mixed vegetables with glass noodles), Fish Fillet Bake **Must-try:** Angus Beef Bbq with Lettuce **Operating hours:** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

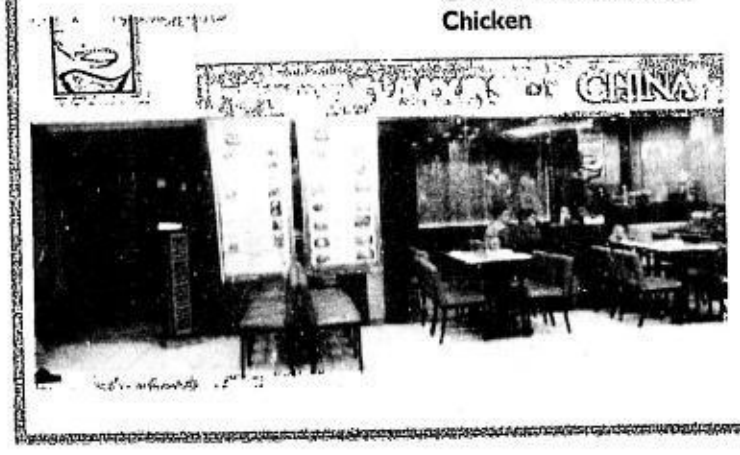
Flavours of China

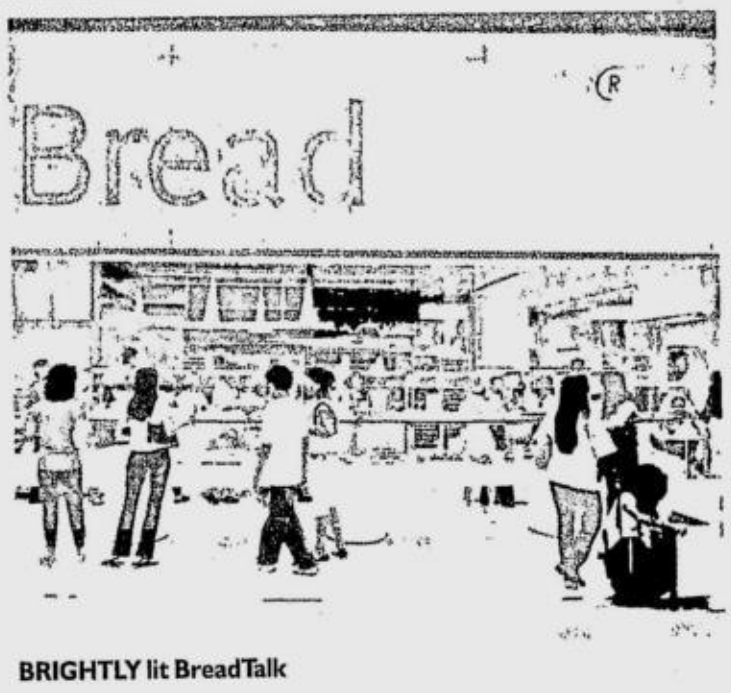
The scene: Noodles or rice, dim-sum or soup, Flavours of China offers Chinese favorites without putting a dent in your pocket. **Best-sellers:** Stir-fried Beef Broccoli Flower in Oyster Sauce, Steamed Sharksfin, Flavours Seafood Fried Rice **Must-try:** Asparagus with Scallops in XO Sauce, Crispy Flavours Fried Chicken, **Operating hours:** 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.



STIR-fried Beef Broccoli Flower in Oyster Sauce

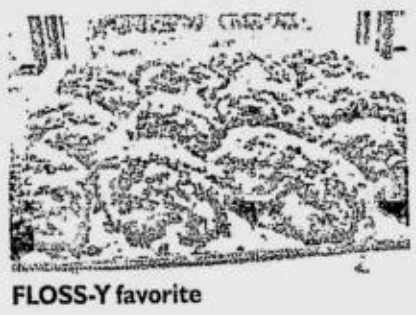
CRISPY Flavours Fried Chicken



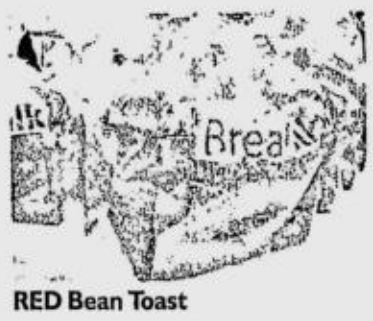


BRIGHTLY lit BreadTalk

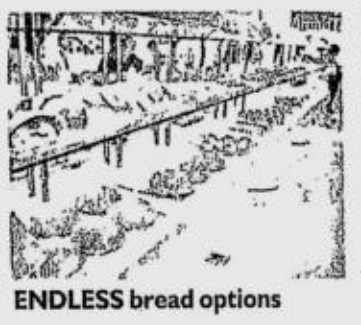
D'DUTCH chocolate delights



FLOSS-Y favorite



RED Bean Toast



ENDLESS bread options

BreadTalk

SELF described as "a revolutionary bread concept which shares with the world different perspectives on how bread talks and adds joy to their life," Breadtalk has become a fast favorite in the country. Offering all kinds of bread products with different fillings and toppings, a fun twist is added with the playful names that elicit curiosity and a taste so unique that buying bread at Breadtalk has turned into a lifestyle

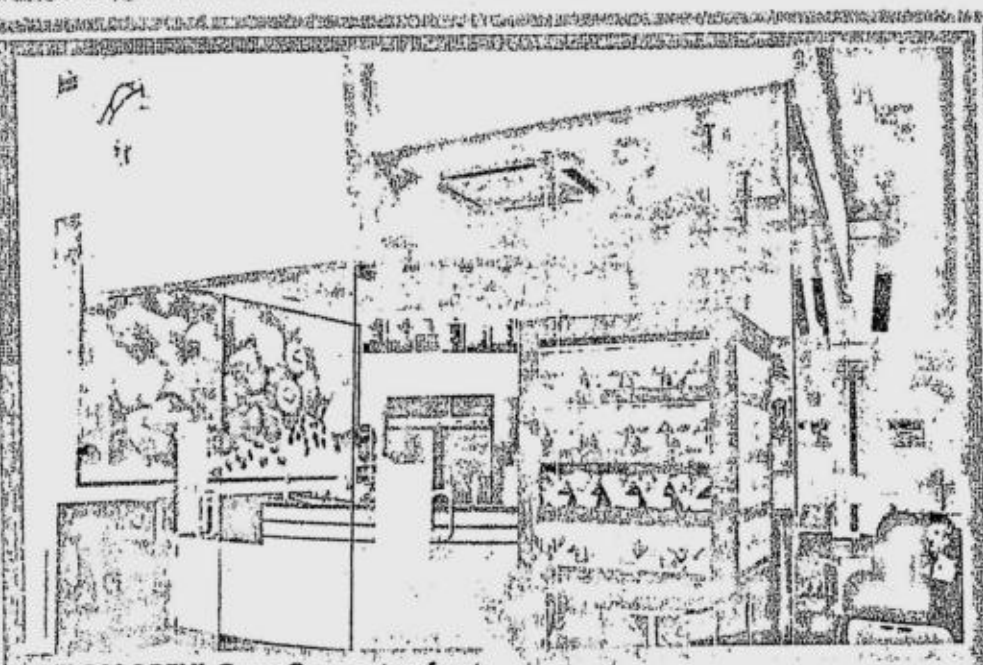
FRESHLY baked goodies

with roughly 500 customers daily. All-time favorites include their "floss" variety (breads with different fillings but topped with very thin juicy strips of pork), the D'Dutch, a chocolate cream sponge bread and other more localized creations such as the Cheezymada and Sisig Bun. Breadtalk also keeps reinventing itself by having new products on offer such as the Red Bean Toast, giving its customers a new bread adventure everytime.

Getting your Just Desserts

By Gem V. Abejo

A good meal is never complete without something sweet to cap it off. At The Block dessert is serious business and a wide array of sweet everything is available from sundaes to silly down-from-it-all battered crepes filled with ice cream and fresh fruits to tasty variety of flavorful sweet and savory bread delights and rich dark chocolate cakes. The choices are endless. Young and old alike flying solo or with family, there is something sweet and special to dig into or take home to friends and loved ones at The Block.



THE COLORFUL Crazy Crepes storefront

Crazy Crepes

ALTHOUGH crepes originally came from Japan, this Atlanta based franchise is bringing the love of crepes to a whole new level of madness. Crazy Crepes promises to appease any kind of crepe craving. The top two favorites are the Mango Crumble and the Banana Rocky Road which were both refreshing and delicious. Crazy Crepes combines local products such as fruits and ice cream from Arce Dairy as well as imported ingredients such as their non-dairy, low fat whipped cream and other add-ons to make each crepe creation a delightful dessert. There are also savory choices such as best-selling Chicken Teriyaki for those who want to give their sweet tooth a rest. Another bonus is that if you're feeling creative, Crazy Crepes encourages you to make your very own crepe to satisfy whatever mood you're in.

CREPE preparation

FINAL touches on the Mango Crumble

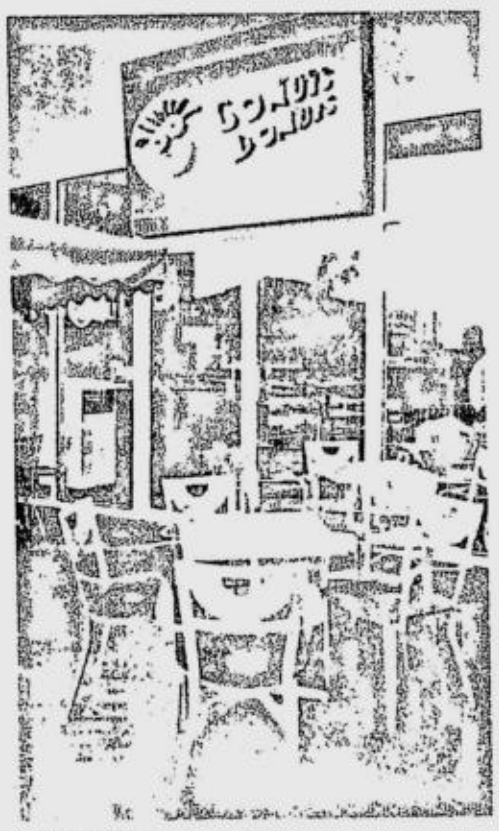
BANANA Rocky Road

FRESH fruits are combined with whipped cream.

AN ARRAY of donut delights

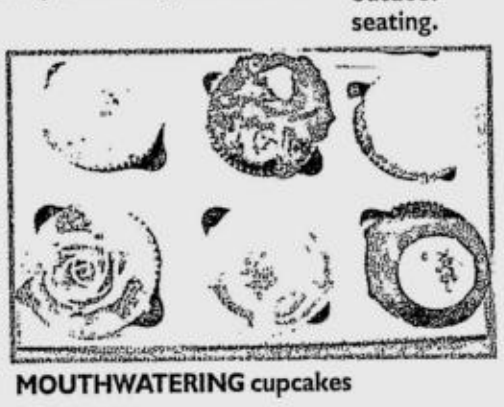
Go Nuts Donuts

WITH 33 branches around the country, Go Nuts Donuts has proven people are indeed, going nuts for these freshly baked treats. Aside from bestsellers such as Amazing Glace (described as melt in your mouth vanilla comfort) and Pastillas de Leche, Go Nuts has now added mouthwatering cupcakes to their selection. Fast favorites include Go Doe which has the Go Nuts mascot's face on a cookie topping a chocolate cupcake and their Double Chocolate cupcake. Refreshments should not be ignored and pairing a "mad brew" (one of many coffee creations) with a favorite donut of choice or an ice cold pastilles de leche or a strawberry glaze shake with a cupcake is always a winning breakfast or snacktime combination.

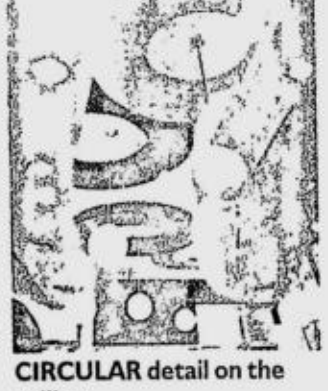


GO NUTS Donuts has indoor and outdoor seating.

FRESH icy smoothies



MOUTHWATERING cupcakes



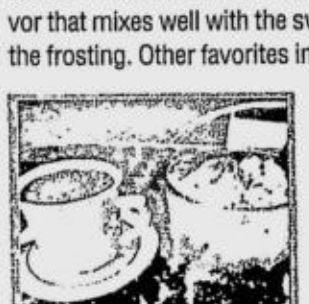
CIRCULAR detail on the ceiling

Chocolat

SPECIALIZING in deep dark chocolate cakes Chocolat promises that its signature cakes are baked and frosted fresh daily. A family business that expanded after the first offering, Deep Dark Classic became such a hit that since then 10 other varieties of chocolate cake were created. Death by Tablea is proudly called 100 % Philippine created since it uses pure unsweetened cacao from Davao. It has a distinct bitter flavor that mixes well with the sweetness of the frosting. Other favorites include the Chocolate Caramel, the Chocolate Carrot Cake and the Chocolate Hazelnut Cake. For those who are more health conscious, there is the Sugar-free Chocolate Mousse which also uses non dairy whip topping and is only 350 calories per slice. Drinks are also delicious choices for dessert such as the hot chocolate and the frozen hot chocolate which both use tablea chocolate from Davao. Each visit to Chocolat is as rich and as delicious as their cakes which promise chocolate goodness with just the right amount of sweetness.

COZY Chocolat interiors

CHOCOLAT is a haven for deep dark chocolate dreaminess.

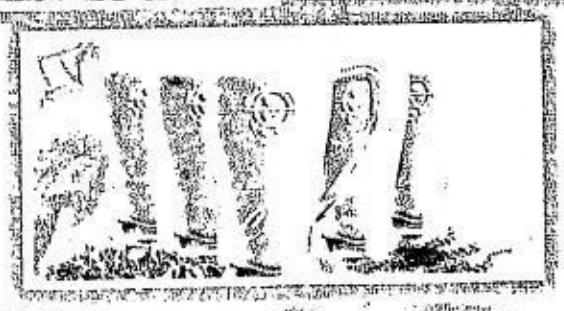


DELICIOUS hot chocolate and a premium chocolate milkshake

SUGARFREE and low calorie White Chocolate Mousse

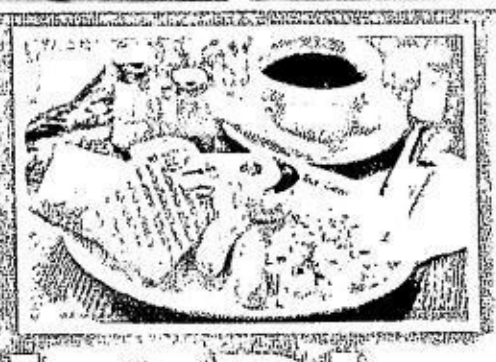
CHOCOLATE Caramel Cake

DEATH by Tablea



The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf

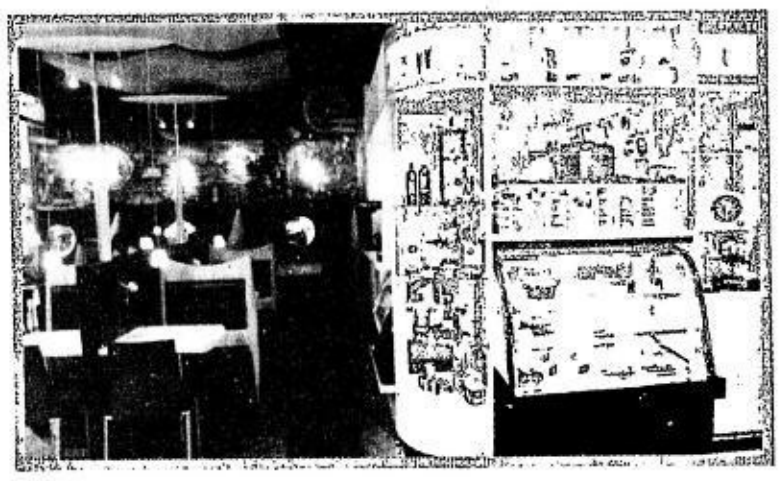
The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, a California-based coffee company, was established in the Philippines in 2003 by Global Asia Group director Walden Chu. Coffee Bean has since tailored its menu to suit Filipino taste sensibilities, balancing traditional favorites with global standards. For a quick snack, choose from a wide array of offerings, which include pastas, panini, muffins and cookies. There are also salads, sandwiches and breakfast sets all day. From the kitchen, there are cheesecakes and other delicacies for those looking for a sugar rush. Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf takes pride in being the only coffee house franchise in the country that produces its own blend straight from its own commissary. Specialty drinks feature choice gourmet coffees and teas, including the Original Ice Blended, which started the worldwide craze of coffee blended drinks.

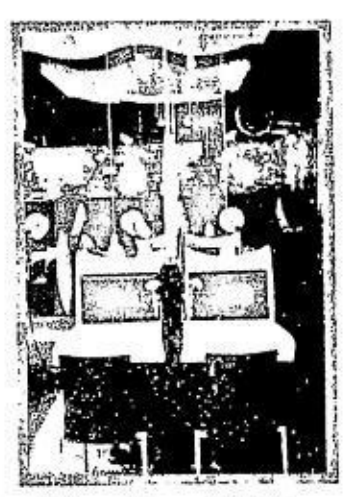


Dark Roasts and Light Blends

By Katrina A. Holigores and Pam Pastor
Photos by Ryan Lim and August dela Cruz

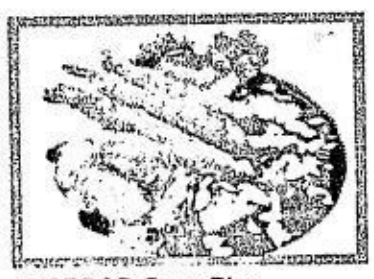
A COFFEE experience not to be forgotten is what one can expect at The Block. Each establishment offers coffee creations coming from different countries or have their own house blend for coffee lovers to try. Sitting back in a cozy lounge chair enjoying a hot freshly brewed special or opting for an ice cold java treat is something to look forward to for the busy professional or just for a relaxing way to spend the afternoon.



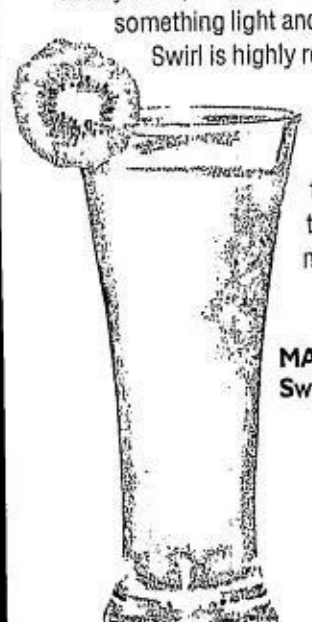


UCC

Bringing in something different was top of mind by the franchise owners of UCC when they first brought it to the Philippines from Japan. Specializing in Japanese cuisine, especially soups and pasta dishes made this coffee shop and so much more stand out from the competition. The beverages and desserts were also a big draw and people flocked for a cup of coffee coupled with a Fruit French Toast or a delicious Strawberry Cheesecake Latte with a Japanese Handroll Sandwich. The breakfast sets are also popular as they come with a beverage of choice from hot coffee, hot chocolate, tea or a fresh orange juice. For a hearty meal, the Seafood Curry Rice is a favorite and for something light and healthy to drink, the Mango Kiwi Swirl is highly recommended. With two floors to offer breakfast goers or those who want something satisfying to drink or eat during the day, UCC is the perfect choice for a wide selection that will cater to every gastronomical whim.



SEAFOOD Curry Rice

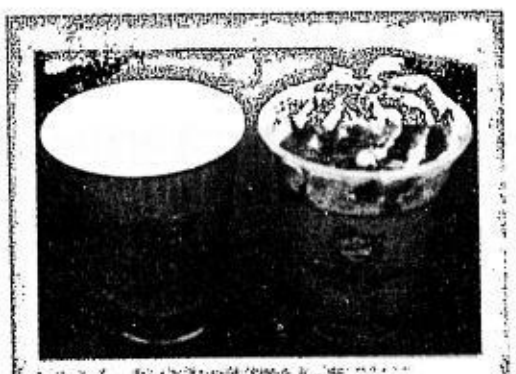


MANGO Kiwi Swirl

FRUIT French Toast

Gloria Jean's Coffee

When coffee is prepared the Gloria Jean's way, they don't just pour the milk, they create latte art. Vangie Lisa Santos, shift leader of Gloria Jean's Coffee at The Block, says this little detail sets them apart from other coffee shops. "It shows our passion," she said. Originally from Australia, Gloria Jean's stores have been serving Pinoys coffee for a while now. They have more than 20 flavored coffee beans and their drinks fall under a number of categories including Espresso Classics, Espreso Expressions, Fruit Chillers, Smoothie Chillers. Favorites include the Chocolate Macadamia Latte, the Crème Brulee, Hot Chocolate with Marshmallows and White Chocolate Mocha. Most drinks come in hot and cold variants to give coffee fans the freedom to choose. Gloria Jean's food display boasts of goodies like Chicken Pie, Banana Walnut Loaf, Dark Truffle Cake, Oatmeal Revel Bar, Marjolane and more. "We also have sugar-free selections—we have sugar-free carrot cake and sugar-free syrups for our drinks," said Vangie. And if that's not enough of a bait, Gloria Jean's also offers free wifi to people who stop by for coffee.

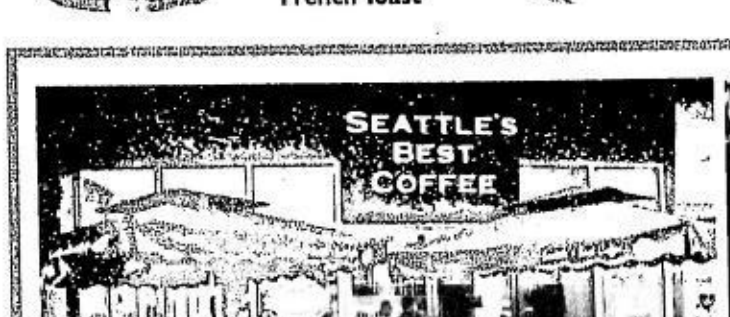


Chaikofi Xpresso

Arie Willard, who moved to the Philippines from The Netherlands, has a long-time love affair with tea and coffee. Chaikofi Xpresso was borne out of this same passion and his penchant for good food. Chaikofi offers a lot of coffee choices—including unusual ones. There are blends imported from Brazil, Colombia, Holland, Guatemala, Ethiopia and there are drinks spiked with Amaretto, Bailey's Kahlua and rhum. But Chaikofi isn't just a coffee stop. Among the bestsellers are the Zonteas, which come in three flavors—Parfum De Citron (nata de coco, lemon, lime, green milk tea and vanilla ice cream), Son of a Dutch (Dutch chocolate, milk tea, vanilla ice cream) and Blushing Bride (strawberry, almond, milk tea, vanilla ice cream). The Fruiteas are also popular—favorite flavors include Green Apple, Arabian Nights, Lemon Mint, Grape and Strawberry. The Yogi Frost is a hit with yogurt lovers. They enjoy the healthy and fruity combination of Mango Bango, Pina Coco Loco and Orange Citrus Blast. People don't just go to Chaikofi for drinks. They serve the Dutch Chicken, Beef Chai Rice and a wide variety of cakes. Gloria Jean's Coffee When coffee is prepared the Gloria Jean's way, they don't just pour the milk, they create latte art. Vangie Lisa Santos, shift leader of Gloria Jean's Coffee at The Block, says this little detail sets them apart from other coffee shops. "It shows our passion," she said. Originally from Australia, Gloria Jean's stores have been serving Pinoys coffee for a while now. They have more than 20 flavored coffee beans and their drinks fall under a number of categories including Espresso Classics, Espreso Expressions, Fruit Chillers, Smoothie Chillers. Favorites include the Chocolate Macadamia Latte, the Crème Brulee, Hot Chocolate with Marshmallows and White Chocolate Mocha. Most drinks come in hot and cold variants to give coffee fans the freedom to choose. Gloria Jean's food display boasts of goodies like Chicken Pie, Banana Walnut Loaf, Dark Truffle Cake, Oatmeal Revel Bar, Marjolane and more. "We also have sugar-free selections—we have sugar-free carrot cake and sugar-free syrups for our drinks," said Vangie. And if that's not enough of a bait, Gloria Jean's also offers free wifi to people who stop by for coffee.

BLUSHING Bride

DUTCH Chicken



A BUSY day at Seattle's Best

SINGLE shot espresso

Seattle's Best Coffee

The world of coffee is something Seattle's Best Coffee prides itself in knowing by heart. Just from reading the selections one is tempted to try the Seattle's Best Coffee Blend which is full bodied and aromatic or the Saturday's Blend which has a delicate flavor yet has an element of spice. One can also try the roasts (there are even levels from lightest to darkest) such as the French Roast which uses beans that are almost black in color giving the coffee a full, bittersweet aroma and taste with virtually no acidity. Seattle's Best Coffee has developed it's own special recipes for blending coffees and well-balanced roasts. There are eight coffee house blends on offer and the choices promise to bring together the world's best beans for a fuller and grander coffee experience. To add to the coffee experience, one can also have a sweet pastry or a pasta dish to accompany a hot or cold concoction, decaf is also available for those who don't want to overdo their caffeine fix.

A FAVORITE roast

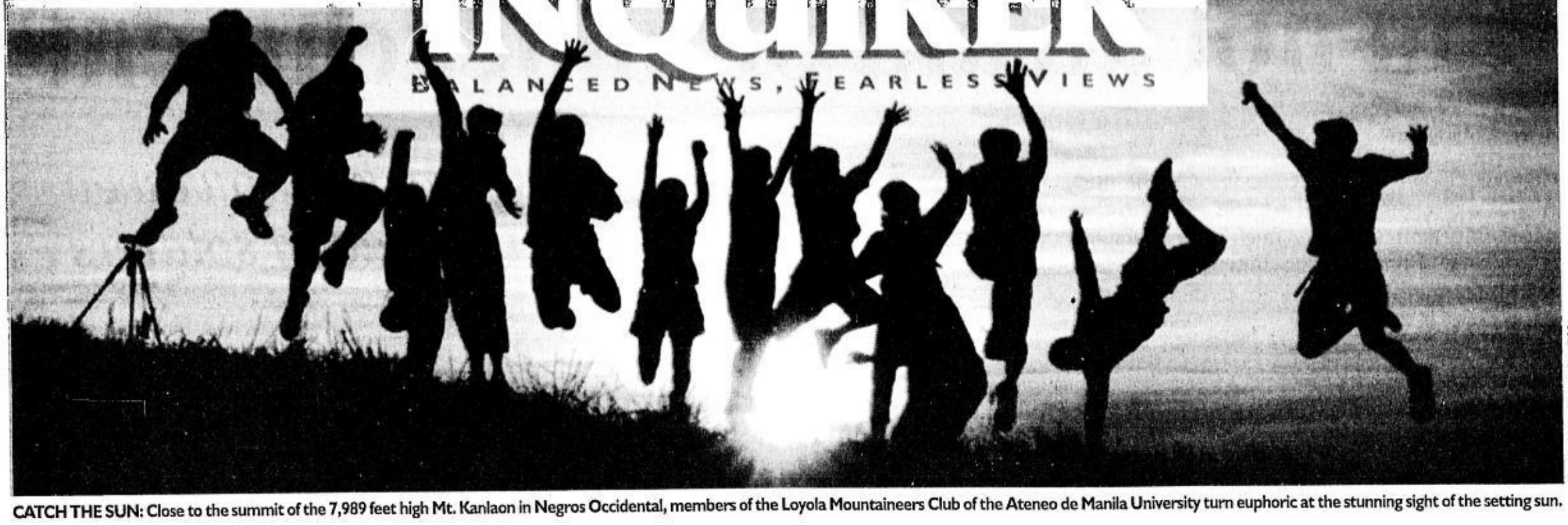
ICE COLD Coffee Jelly

Sunday, September 2, 2007 ★★ 14 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 266 P20 website: www.inquirer.net

Be it ever so humble, Filipinos always find ways to make a home. Think of the possibilities if living space translates to home ownership. Going home takes on new meaning

SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE

PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



CHRISTIAN REGIS/CONTRIBUTOR

CATCH THE SUN: Close to the summit of the 7,989 feet high Mt. Kanlaon in Negros Occidental, members of the Loyola Mountaineers Club of the Ateneo de Manila University turn euphoric at the stunning sight of the setting sun.

SWS survey: Pardon Erap

Princess Di: 'Simply, best mother in the world'

LONDON—IT WAS NOT THE VIsion of Princess Diana gliding across a ballroom or that of the compassionate royal consoling AIDS victims that her son remembered.

Rather, it was an image of Diana at her most intimate and unguarded—the princess as a doting mother of William and Harry.

"She kissed us last thing at night. Her beaming smile greeted us from school. She laughed hysterically and uncontrollably when sharing something silly she might have said or done that day," Harry said with a mixture of princely composure and deep feeling.

In his heartfelt address, Harry voiced the loss he and his brother still feel as he called Diana "simply the best mother in the world."

"We would say that, wouldn't we? But we miss her."

He explained: "William and I can separate life into two parts. There were those years when we were blessed by the physical presence beside us of both our mother and father and then there are the 10 years since our mother's death."

Harry said his mother would "always be remembered for her amazing public work."

He concluded his speech by saying: "She made us and so many other people happy—may this be the way that she is remembered."

The memorial service Friday organized by Prince William and Prince Harry climaxed a week of recalling her life and reviving old battles, al-

PRINCESS/ A15

INTIMATE, MOST MOVING recollections of Prince Harry (right) of a mother at the Thanksgiving service he and older brother William organized for Princess Diana. AP

In case of guilty verdict, 48% of Metro residents want clemency

By Norman Bordadora

ALMOST HALF OF FILIPInos in Metro Manila and nearby provinces feel President Macapagal-Arroyo should pardon former President Joseph Estrada if he is found guilty of plunder.

This was one of the findings of a confidential survey conducted by the Social Weather Stations in late July and commissioned by the political opposition.

"In case the Sandiganbayan declares Erap guilty, 48 percent say that GMA should pardon him immediately," read one of the highlights of the survey dubbed Project Theodore. Details of the survey were obtained by the INQUIRER from the opposition.

Thirty-eight percent said Estrada should be pardoned "after some time" and 13 percent said no pardon, the study said.

"Lower classes prefer immediate pardon," it added.

Two percent of the respondents either refused to answer the question or

SWS SURVEY/ A8

'Komiks' by Caparas returns big-time

CONVERGENCE IN 'DIARIO NOVELA:' Komiks written by Carlo J. Caparas will run in the INQUIRER for 6 days a week starting tomorrow.

By Constantino C. Tejero

IT'S THE FIRST OF ITS KIND: A *diario novela*; an unheard of convergence between the Philippine Daily Inquirer and the king of "komiks" himself, Carlo J. Caparas.

"To Have and to Hold" starts tomorrow and every day thereafter except Sundays. Its first strip is a grabber, with frames illustrated like a movie's storyboard. As can be gleaned from its title, it is a love story. From the first few panels the reader can discern a Romeo-and-Juliet situation between lovers Arvin and Jennifer.

Caparas says he is aware that his entering the INQUIRER is seeking new readers, that is, aside from his mass-based built-in readership he has to reach new ones in the corporate world, the bureaucrats' offices, the academe, even the politicians' lairs.

He says he had thought this over—and so in his story he has business rivalries intermeshing with personal lives; scenes shuttling from "lansangan" (streets) to mall to corporate tower to Forbes Park; dialogues fluctuating between street Tagalog and straight English with Taglish in between.

Yes, we can expect poverty and injustice to be tackled soon, but first and foremost, as Caparas insists, the komiks writer's duty is to entertain.

"To Have and to Hold" will run six days a week for six months in the INQUIRER, after which Caparas will follow it with a new *diario novela*. (Running duration may be adjusted to readers' demand, though. After all, "Pieta" and "Kahit Ako'y Lupa," his two longest-running komiks novels, had to be extended to four years so that cir-

KOMIKS/ A8

Magdalo cooks up another coup: A soldier's cookbook

By Fe Zamora

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD.

Aside from mapping out their defense against charges they planned to oust President Arroyo in 2003, the detained Magdalo officers have also been plotting ways to come up with the best "pulutan" (finger food or bar chow) to go with their drinks.

The result of their four-year "plotting" is the 135-page cookbook "Pulutan: From the Soldiers' Kitchen"

Released last week, it is authored by

MAGDALO/ A8

GSIS head says sorry for e-Card glitches

By Michelle V. Remo

GSIS PRESIDENT AND GENERAL manager Winston Garcia apologizes for the "glitches" in the delivery of services to the members of the Government Service Insurance System even while he alleges that some employees of the state-run pension fund have been sabotaging efforts to perfect the automation of its systems.

"The imperfection in the system, I agree, is intolerable. If there had been inefficiencies in our system, there is no excuse for that. My apologies," Garcia said.

"The human infrastructure that we have at the GSIS sucks ... There may be some personnel sabotaging our efforts because they do not like what we are doing now," Garcia said at a meeting

GSIS HEAD/ A4

The big reveal: Model cities' secrets of governance

By Beverly T. Natividad and Tonette Orejas,
Inquirer Central Luzon

POOR RESIDENTS OF TAGBILARAN City in Bohol get free hospitalization benefits and free medicines.

Marikina in Metro Manila offers free dental services to its residents, while San Fernando City in Pampanga has placed some 6,000 of its residents in jobs here and abroad through its job fairs and recruitment projects.

"Tagbilaran is telling us that we are our best hope. San Fernando has rebuilt from the ashes [of Mt. Pinatubo] and has provided an empowering atmosphere. Marikina is moving the concept of leadership into [one] that ennobles the people," said Mario Antonio Lopez, associate dean of the Asian Institute of Management's Center for Development Management.

If these three cities are edging out their counterparts in the rest of the country, it's not that their mayors—Marikina's Ma. Lourdes Fernando, San Fernando's Oscar Rodriguez, and Tagbilaran's Dan Neri Lim—are lords of all they survey.

Far from being a one-person act or a top-to-bottom management approach, their style of governance involves a way of doing things that demands the participation of both the governing and the governed.

THE BIG REVEAL/ A7

JOB Market
Inquirer stages career fiesta at Glorietta Sept.3-5. Check it out to find work after your own heart

A way out of poverty, according to the gospel of John Gokongwei. New book unveils taipan's struggles and triumphs

SUNDAY BIZ / B1

Tears flow in 'Wowowee' tribute to soldiers slain in the South; host Willie Revillame even reaches out to rival Joey de Leon to cool down heated war of words

NEWS / A2

Seoul said to have paid $20-M ransom; Taliban say money to be used for suicide attacks

WORLD / A23

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Second FRONTPAGE

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/nation

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007

EZ2 SIX DIGIT

6 21 | 3 4 4 0 4 9

Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening

0 4 3 | 0 7 4

(All in exact order)

6/42 LUZON/VIS-MIN

3 6 10 16 26 27

P4,453,452.00

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon will continue to experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Mostly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Mostly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Mostly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Mostly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Mostly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Mostly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Mostly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Calapan	Mostly Cloudy	Davao	Partly Cloudy

COMPILED BY: SCHATZI QUODALA, PDI RESEARCH/09/01/07 SOURCE: PAGASA

'I'm not afraid of impeachment'

By Jerome Aning and Norman Bordadora

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS CHAIR BENJAMIN Abalos Sr. yesterday said he was ready to face a supposed impeachment case which some lawmakers were considering filing against him over a controversial $329-million telecommunications deal with China.

Abalos also told the INQUIRER that should the deal involving the setting up of a national broadband network (NBN) across the Philippines be found illegal and that it did not secure Comelec clearance, a case should be filed in court against all those involved.

"I'm not afraid because I did not do anything wrong," he said when asked about the reported impeachment threat.

Abalos denied having any hand in the negotiations between China and the Philippines to build the project.

In another development, former Iloilo Rep. Rolex Suplico has asked the Supreme Court to immediately issue a temporary restraining order on the implementation of the government's NBN contract with the Chinese ZTE Corp, China's third largest telecommunications firm which is backed by the Chinese government.

Suplico also asked the high court to immediately act on his earlier motion to nullify the deal.

The project aims to link government agencies throughout the country through a common electronic backbone.

Critics of the NBN deal said it was dubious because ZTE's offer was inferior to those of other interested parties. Amsterdam Holdings Inc. (AHI) and the US-based Arescom Inc. reportedly offered to build a similar network for only $242 million and $135 million, respectively.

Opposition Rep. Carlos Padilla, in a privilege speech, alleged Abalos brokered the deal and that Abalos was seen playing golf with ZTE officials in Manila and Shenzen, China.

Padilla also cited a newspaper columnist's article that a Comelec official—unnamed in the article—had received lavish gifts and women from his Chinese hosts.

Teves apologized

Abalos said he was was no longer amused by mounting accusations that he brokered the project.

"Before, I considered these reports humorous because who am I to influence such a big deal?" Abalos said. "Now, however, I'm hurt a lot because I'm not even a signatory in the contract and yet I'm being linked to it."

Abalos said he had called Finance Secretary Margarito Teves and that the latter supposedly apologized for saying that Abalos was present when the project came during a discussion at the Wack-wack golf club in Mandaluyong City.

"I recalled to him that we just met there by chance. He was with Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza and I just saw them there and sat with them for a while. There was no detailed discussion, only introductions," Abalos said.

Why me? Abalos asks

Abalos said that in fairness to Teves, the finance secretary never said that it was he (Abalos) who arranged the meeting at Wack-wack.

As president of the golf club, Abalos said that whenever he was in Wack-wack, he often interacted with members and their guests.

"With so many VIPs I've spoken to and met at Wack-wack, I might be accused of brokering a lot more deals," he added.

ABALOS

Abalos said he could not fathom why politicians and the media were bent on linking him to the controversial contract. He said he had grown weary answering questions about his alleged lobbying.

"It seems there is a concerted effort to destroy me and malign me. What have I done? Why is everybody after me?" he said.

Merely played golf

He said he never deserved being bannered in newspapers about the NBN deal since he had nothing to do with it in the first place.

He said he only hosted ZTE officials at Wack-wack and that he "simply returned the gesture" by playing golf with them in China later on.

In his urgent motion, Suplico said there was a need for a TRO in the light of recent developments.

Suplico said government officials were waiting for the finalization of a $330-million loan from the Chinese Export-Import Bank to implement the ZTE contract.

Tears flow in 'Wowowee' tribute to dead soldiers

By Alcuin Papa

BATTLE-HARDENED SOLDIERS WERE reduced to tears yesterday on national television after the popular "Wowowee" show of ABS-CBN staged an emotional tribute for their comrades who were killed in Sulu and Basilan.

Around 400 soldiers were invited to yesterday's show and participated in the games, according to Armed Forces spokesperson Lt. Col. Bartolome Bacarro.

But he said over 500 soldiers from the Army, Air Force, Marines, and Navy came along. Also invited were families of Marine soldiers who were slain in an ambush in Basilan last July 10, where 14 soldiers died, 10 of them beheaded. The family members brought along pictures of their fallen loved ones.

"Before the show, I told them we will just have fun and enjoy ourselves," Bacarro said.

But the show turned emotional when producers showed video images of soldiers in battle.

The show became touching when Revillame called on stage a mother, later identified as Susanita Eleazar, whose son Arjorin was killed in Basilan.

No goodbye

Inteviewed by Revillame, Susanita recounted that she last talked to her son before he was deployed to Basilan. She said she never really said goodbye to Anjorin, who would have turned 25 years old on Oct. 1, and asked Revillame if she could do that through a song on the show.

She sang her own adaptation of Eva Eugenio's "Ano Ang Gagawin Kapag Wala Ka Na" dedicating it to her son and also as her personal tribute to the soldiers.

Eleazar's rendition reduced to tears the soldiers and their families who were in the studio.

"The soldiers started crying, the staff of the show started crying. Even Willie cried. I didn't want to look at my seatmates because I was afraid the tears would come down," Bacarro said. Nonetheless, he was caught on camera wiping away some tears.

"*Walang matibay dun.* (No one was tough enough for that.) We all had a heavy feeling," said Maj. Demy Zagala, the military's deputy spokesperson who came with Bacarro.

Zagala said the show reminded him of his days in combat. "When you are out there, you don't really grasp what your relatives feel when you die in the trenches. But today I saw how the relatives react when soldiers die."

Reaching out to Joey

Visibly touched by Eleazar's song, Revillame also used the occasion to reach out to Joey de Leon, host of rival "Eat Bulaga" and who had engaged Revillame in a recent word war. He sang the song, replacing the lyrics with his own words for De Leon.

"*Magbati na tayo aking kaibigan/ Pasensya ka na, nadala ng emosyon/ ikaw pa rin inspirasyon/ ikaw ang tunay na institusyon/Eat Bulaga ang tunay na* number one," went Revillame's song.

Later, Revillame sang his own tribute to soldiers with a song composed by Vehnee Saturno that spoke of love and unity while images of soldiers in battle flashed on the screen.

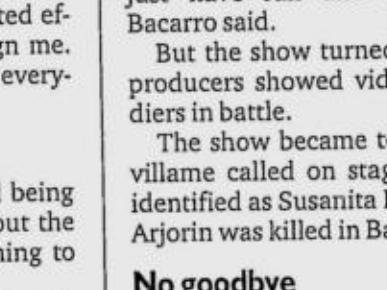
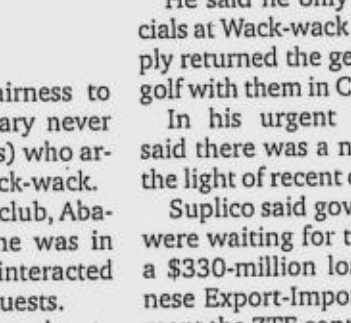
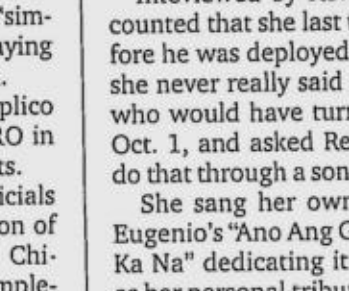
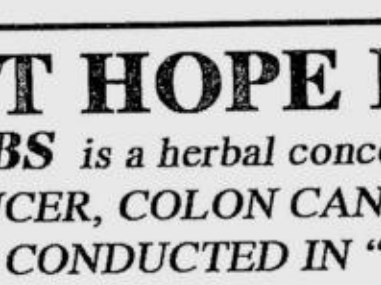
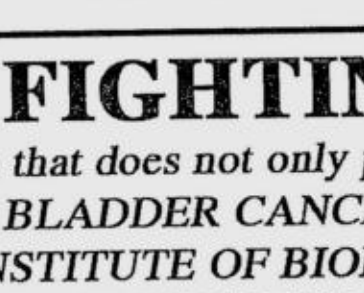
Again, tears flowed.

"I can empathize with the families. I had soldiers under my command die and it is hard to tell their families. Then as now, I feel their load and their pain," Bacarro said later.

OUR NEXT BEST HOPE IN FIGHTING CANCER!.....

BOSTON-C/*KATONI HERBS* *is a herbal concoction that does not only prevents, but also kills CANCER such as, LUNG CANCER, BREAST CANCER, COLON CANCER, BLADDER CANCER, LYMPHOMA, AND LEUKEMIA BASED ON CYTOXICITY TESTS CONDUCTED IN "UP INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGY", DILIMAN QUEZON CITY*

BELOW ARE THE SOME ACTIVE RESULTS. BEFORE AND AFTER TAKING BOSTON-C!

LUNG CARCINOMA - *Chest X-Ray revealed a 8 x10 Homogenous mass at the right lung*	BEFORE	 AFTER	**LUNG CARCINOMA** *Repeat X-Ray* - *10 days show moderate clearing of the MASS.*
SUPRAGLOTTIC MASS - *CT scan and endoscopy reveals mass at the left Arthenoidal Area.*	 BEFORE	 AFTER	**SUPRAGLOTTIC MASS** *After one month Endoscopy was done. It was observed that, there is an absence of any lesion in the supraglottis. No mass noted at CT Scan*
NPCA - **Endoscopy showed Nasopharyngeal Mass Biopsy revealed Squamous Cell Carcinoma**	 BEFORE	 AFTER	**NPCA** *-Regression of Tumor.* - *No tumor recurrence for 6 months.*

See us right now!!!!

Mr. Antonio R. Agustin
245 Mc Arthur Highway , Maligaya, Tarlac City
Cell Nos. 09209060992 or 09209100806
Exclusive distributor for Metro Mla. And Provinces: DRA. ELIZABETH DILIG
Cel no: 09276780193 LANDLINE: (02) 873-2627 (CAVITE OUTLET- 0915-5926156)
(Las Pinas 0926-6939924) or visit our website: www.bostonherbs.com
ADDRESS: Bldg.24 C2 URCI Commercial Complex, Pamplona Las Pinas
Distributor for OLONGAPO, Bataan, Zambales: Ate CONCHING Cel # 0916-6429869

BOSTON-C/KATONI HERBS IS A FOOD SUPPLEMENT WITH NO GOVERNMENT APPROVED THERAPEUTIC CLAIM!

CHEN GUANGCHENG: In prison for speaking up against abortions.

RM awardee's wife says she was pulled out of bus

BEIJING—THE WIFE OF AN IMPRISONED blind Chinese activist said Saturday she was dragged off a bus to stop her from traveling to Beijing to speak out on his behalf.

Yuan Weijing said she was on a bus from Shandong province in eastern China on Friday when it stopped and she was pulled off by a group of government workers.

Last week, Yuan was blocked by Chinese authorities from leaving for the Philippines, where she was to accept the Ramon Magsaysay Award, Asia's version of the Nobel Prize, on behalf of her husband, Chen Guangcheng.

Chen, 36, was sentenced to four years and three months in prison in 2006 after he documented cases of forced abortions and other abuses by family planning officials in his native Shandong.

"I think the purpose of this was to prohibit me from speaking out," Yuan said by phone from her village of Dongshigu in Shangdong.

Seeking legal help

"Three men and one woman got on the bus and they dragged me to get me off the bus," Yuan said.

She said she was going to Beijing to highlight her husband's case and to seek legal help after her passport was taken away when she was trying to go to the Philippines. She did not give details.

Yuan, 31, was taken back to her home early Saturday, and said about six people were standing in front of her house and another four were blocking the entrance to the village.

She said she recognized the people who dragged her off the bus as being from her local government office.

A duty officer at the Shandong police office, who refused to give his name, said he had not heard of the case.

The action against Yuan came the same day that a speech by her was read out at the Magsaysay awards ceremony in the Philippines accusing Beijing of violating human rights.

"In China, our government is often the biggest violator of people's rights," Yuan said in the speech. "Because Guangcheng engaged in helping peasants safeguard their rights, he became the target of a retaliatory strike by some corrupt government officials."

Trumped-up charges

Yuan said her husband was convicted "based on trumped-up charges and a flawed trial process," in which villagers allegedly were kidnapped and tortured to testify against him.

Chen was convicted on charges of instigating an attack on government offices in Dongshigu. Police said he was upset with workers sent to carry out poverty-relief programs.

Chen and a fellow Chinese, Chung To, jointly won the Magsaysay emergent leadership award. Chen, blinded by a fever as a child, became a "barefoot lawyer," helping farmers file court cases, leading protests against a river-polluting paper factory and documenting abuses.

Chung was recognized for his AIDS Orphans Project, which provides children who have an AIDS-infected parent with school fees.

Each Magsaysay winner receives a gold medallion with an image of the former Philippine president after which the award is named plus $50,000. *AP*

GMA asks Congress to work for progress

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO yesterday appealed to Congress to join her in fighting poverty, waging peace and working for political stability after senators downplayed the second quarter's robust growth of 7.5 percent, saying it failed to create jobs for the poor.

Ms Arroyo, in her arrival statement from Malaysia, made the appeal after Senate President Manuel Villar and Sen. Mar Roxas, said the high growth posted by the economy in the second quarter might be impressive, but means little to jobless urban dwellers and low-income farmers.

"The statistics from our National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) shows that our economic roadmap is unfolding as it should, and right on schedule," the President said.

"From Third World to First World, this is the only journey worth taking," she said.

"I call on our people and their representatives in Congress to work for progress and unite for peace, so that finally we can leave the chains of poverty and political instability behind us," Ms Arroyo said.

She said the experience of Malaysia and other Asian neighbors showed that the Philippines can become a rich nation.

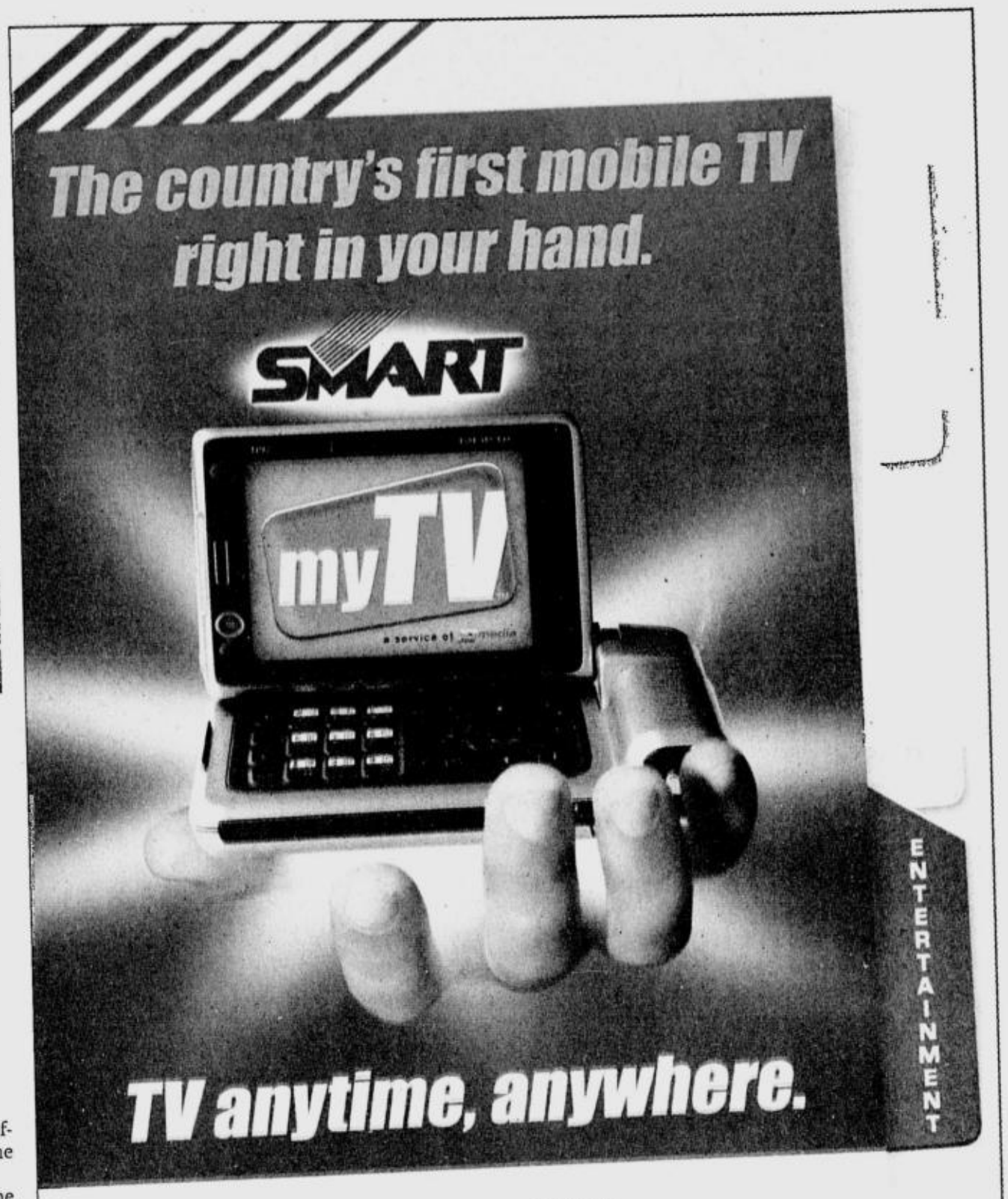
"Our GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth shows that we can prosper, and that in fact, we are on our way to better times, as long as we stay on course and fight poverty as Team Philippines," Ms Arroyo said.

The President arrived at 3:15 a.m. yesterday from an overnight trip to Kuala Lumpur where she attended the celebration of Malaysia's 50th anniversary of independence.

"When I left Manila on Thursday afternoon, I brought with me very good news for our fellow Filipinos in Malaysia — the latest indicators showing that the Philippine economy registered its highest growth rate of 7.3 percent in two decades during the first half of this year," Ms Arroyo said.

The President met with the Filipino community in Malaysia before joining other Asian heads of state in the festivities for Malaysia's golden anniversary.

"I personally thanked Prime Minister Dato' Seri Abdullah Badawi and other Malaysian government officials for their support in the exploratory talks between the government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and for the extension of the International Monitoring Team's tour of duty in the Philippines," she said.



WIDEST COVERAGE*
Stay tuned without staying put with the widest mobile TV coverage.*
*Initially available in Mega Manila, Baguio Batangas Cebu, Davao.

LIVE**
See digital broadcasts of what you see on TV.
**7-second lag in TV feed.

CLICK AND WATCH
Like your regular TV, you can watch with just one-click.

UNLIMITED VIEWING
With fixed monthly rates you can watch as much as you want, as long as you like.

Try myTV now for FREE!
until October 15 only.

Entertainment
Never miss another show from popular channels.

Cartoon Network | Entertainment Central | Jack TV | Pinoy Box Office | MTV

Sports
Catch the latest sporting events on the go.

Basketball TV | PBA | Solar Sports

Documentaries
Always be informed.and in the know.

National Geographic Channel | The History Channel | CNN

News
See the news unfold as it happens, when it happens.

Content subject to change.

Inquire now! Call *6988 or 888-1111 for more info.
For more details, call the myTV hotline at *6988 through your SMART cellphone, 888-1111 through landline or visit any SMART Wireless Center.
See flyers for details. Promo runs until October 21, 2007. Per DTI-NCR No. 3544, Series of 2007

360media
SMART THE POWER TO LEAD

GSIS head says sorry for e-Card glitches

From page A1

with INQUIRER editors and columnists late Thursday.

Garcia, whose leadership has been under attack amid massive complaints of delayed payments of pensions and benefits of GSIS members, said the computerization of the GSIS's systems through the introduction of the electronic identification card (e-Card) has curbed irregularities spawned by the manual system.

He cited such anomalous practices as checks being issued to GSIS members who are already dead. He said some people were engaged in rediscounting, or buying GSIS-issued checks at a 5 to 10 percent discount.

But with the GSIS having gone electronic, many people were losing these sources of kickbacks, he said. And this was the reason why some would not be supportive of, or would even sabotage, the automation project, Garcia said.

While initially adamant that the complaints were only due to some glitches in the system and that they were coming from a small portion of the GSIS's 1.4 million membership, Garcia eventually agreed that the problem was worse than he would like to portray it.

The INQUIRER has been swamped by complaints from GSIS pensioners and active members from all over the country who said they were having a difficult time accessing loans or getting their pension checks.

The complaints had been the subject of several articles by the paper's columnists.

Many of the complainants said they could not use their e-Cards because the GSIS kiosks were down. They said they had taken their concerns to the GSIS to no avail, and had gone to the media as a last resort.

Act on complaints in 10 days

He said he would make sure that GSIS staff and officials concerned would be charged administratively if they fail to act on complaints within 10 days upon filing.

He also said the GSIS would work on improving its systems to solve inefficiencies in the delivery of services.

Garcia has also been assailed on other issues involving his stewardship of the pension fund, such as the allegedly irregular award of the e-Card contract to Union Bank and Garcia's filing of court charges against the four-man special audit team (SAT) of the Commission on Audit which came out with a report questioning certain practices at the GSIS.

Garcia told the INQUIRER gathering that Union Bank won the contract over several banks, including the Bank of the Philippine Islands, which is one of the country's Top 10 banks in terms of earnings.

Why Union Bank won contract

He explained that Union Bank won the contract because it only required a P1-billion maintaining balance for the GSIS, lower than the P1.5 billion required by BPI. He said Union Bank was also aggressive in making an offer to the GSIS, while BPI was not as interested.

"Union Bank sent not only their financial team but also representatives for their technical group. They were able to answer all our technical questions about their facility for the GSIS e-Card," Garcia said.

BPI only sent a financial team and could not satisfy the GSIS's technical questions, he said.

As for the Land Bank of the Philippines, he said the state-owned bank did not have the facilities for the e-Card. The award of the e-Card project to Union Bank had the effect of LandBank, the GSIS's depository bank since the 1990s, losing the deposits to the much smaller Union Bank.

"IT'S A GIVEN, a fact of life, many people want me out," GSIS president Winston Garcia tells INQUIRER editors and reporters over dinner. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

The LandBank only offered an ATM system where GSIS members may use ATM cards to withdraw loans and pensions, Garcia explained.

But what the GSIS wanted was an e-Card facility that serves not as an ATM but a debit card. He said debit card accounts, unlike ATM accounts, do not require a maintaining balance for clients.

'Malicious'

Addressing the issue of the COA team, Garcia said the SAT report was malicious and politically motivated.

He said many people wanted him out of the GSIS. "I take it as a given, a fact of life," he said.

Among the findings of the SAT report was that the GSIS e-Card project did not go through a bidding process.

The SAT also questioned the unusually high compensation and benefit packages of GSIS officials and Garcia's multimillion cash advances involving discretionary allowances without receipts.

The report, which the SAT submitted to the Office of the Ombudsman, became the basis of an investigation by the House of Representatives in the last Congress but the committee on good government and government enterprises failed to come up with a report.

The GSIS has filed three administrative cases and three criminal cases against the SAT with the Office of the Ombudsman, which also has yet to act on the SAT report.

The GSIS also filed a civil case for damages against the SAT in Cebu, Garcia's home province, and another case for indirect contempt against SAT supervisor Léonor Boado with the Court of Appeals.

Advances legitimate

At the INQUIRER meeting, Garcia insisted his advances were all legitimate and supported by receipts.

He said the setting up of a SAT was meant to discredit him. Garcia said there was no need for a special audit team because there was already a resident COA auditor at the GSIS.

He said all relevant documents have been submitted to the resident COA auditor.

Garcia said the SAT report was very malicious, as proven by the team's going to the press with its report.

"It should not have gone to the press if there was no intention of maligning me," Garcia said.

Spanish-inspired community in Quezon City...

Don't miss our
GRAND OPEN HOUSE
today,
September 2.

Purchase your
very own unit
with prices starting below
P700,000

Phase I
ready for occupancy.
Now selling Phase 2.

San Benissa
GARDEN VILLAS

LICENSE TO SELL #16759

PHINMA PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP.
City Living Made Easy

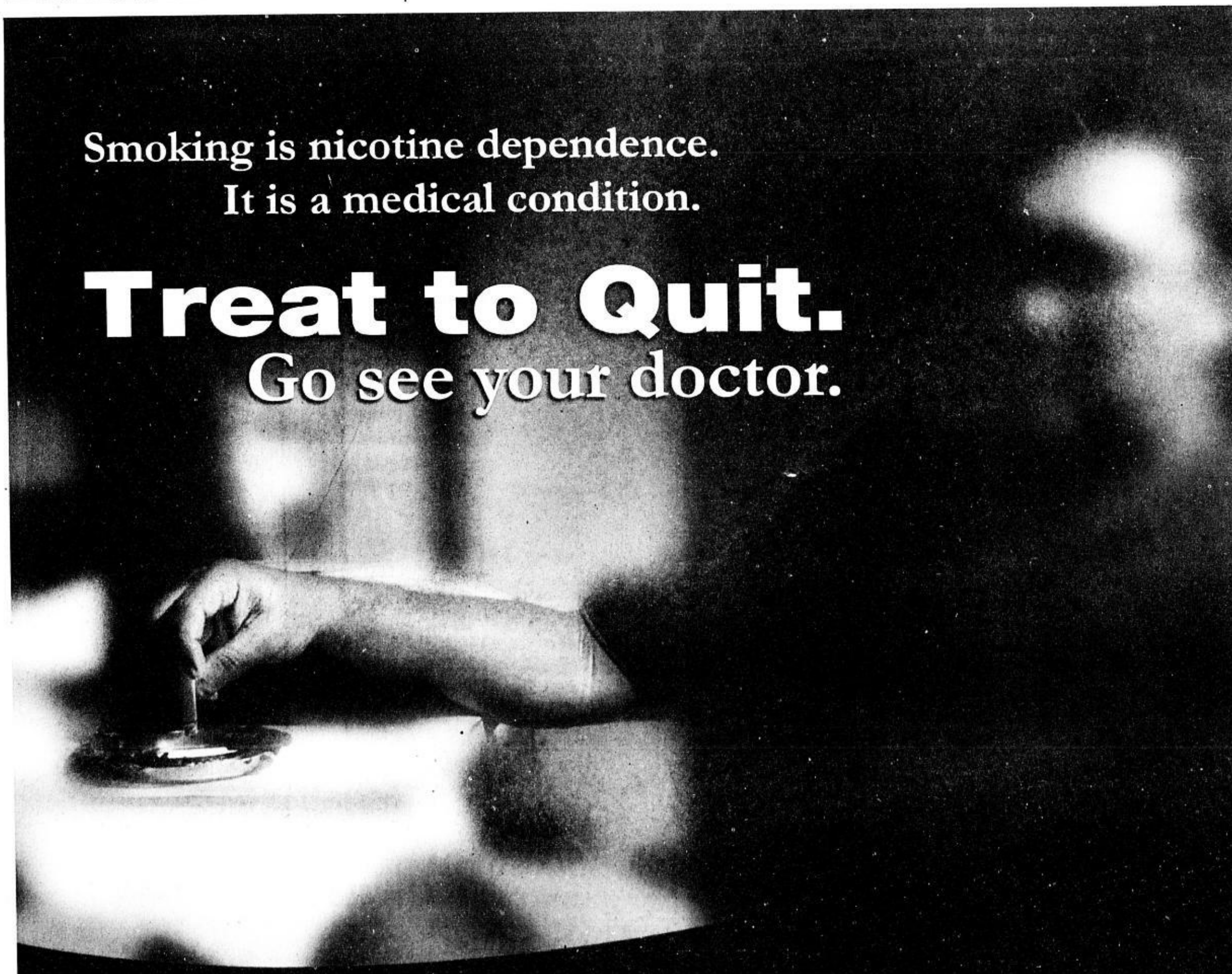
*Prices & space subject to change without prior notice

HOW TO GET THERE: From EDSA northbound, turn right to either East, Quezon or North Avenues, go straight until you reach the Quezon City Elliptical Circle. Turn right to Commonwealth Avenue and drive straight until you reach the unpaved portion. For commuters, take Jordan Plains Subdivision jeepney & get off at the gate

812-9554 • 813-2126 • 0917-812-PPHC (7742)
Human Shelter Realty: 475-4438 • Boomland Realty: 939-7338

Smoking is nicotine dependence.
It is a medical condition.

Treat to Quit.
Go see your doctor.



A public service message from: Philippine College of Chest Physicians

Pfizer

DLSU-M President Br. Armin Luistro FSC with the winners and judges at the 2007 Lasallian Scholarum Awards (L-R): Chair of University of the Philippines Communication Department Prof. Rachel Khan (judge), Philippine Daily Inquirer's publisher Isagani Yambot (in behalf of awardee Edwin Bacasmas), Nestor Cuartero (awardee), Kara David (awardee), Tonette Orejas (awardee), DLSU-M Chancellor Dr. Carmelita Quebengco, National Artist for Literature Dr. Bienvenido Lumbera, the Board of Judges, Carlito Reyes and Donelle Gan (awardees). Campaign and Event Chairperson Ms. Ana Dy (not in photo).

De La Salle University-Manila
congratulates journalists for their outstanding coverage of youth and education issues.

the 2007 Lasallian scholarum awards

Tonette Orejas
Low Grad Gives New Meaning to 'Keto'
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Outstanding Feature on Youth and Education

Edwin Bacasmas
Life in the Evacuation
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Outstanding Photograph on Youth and Education

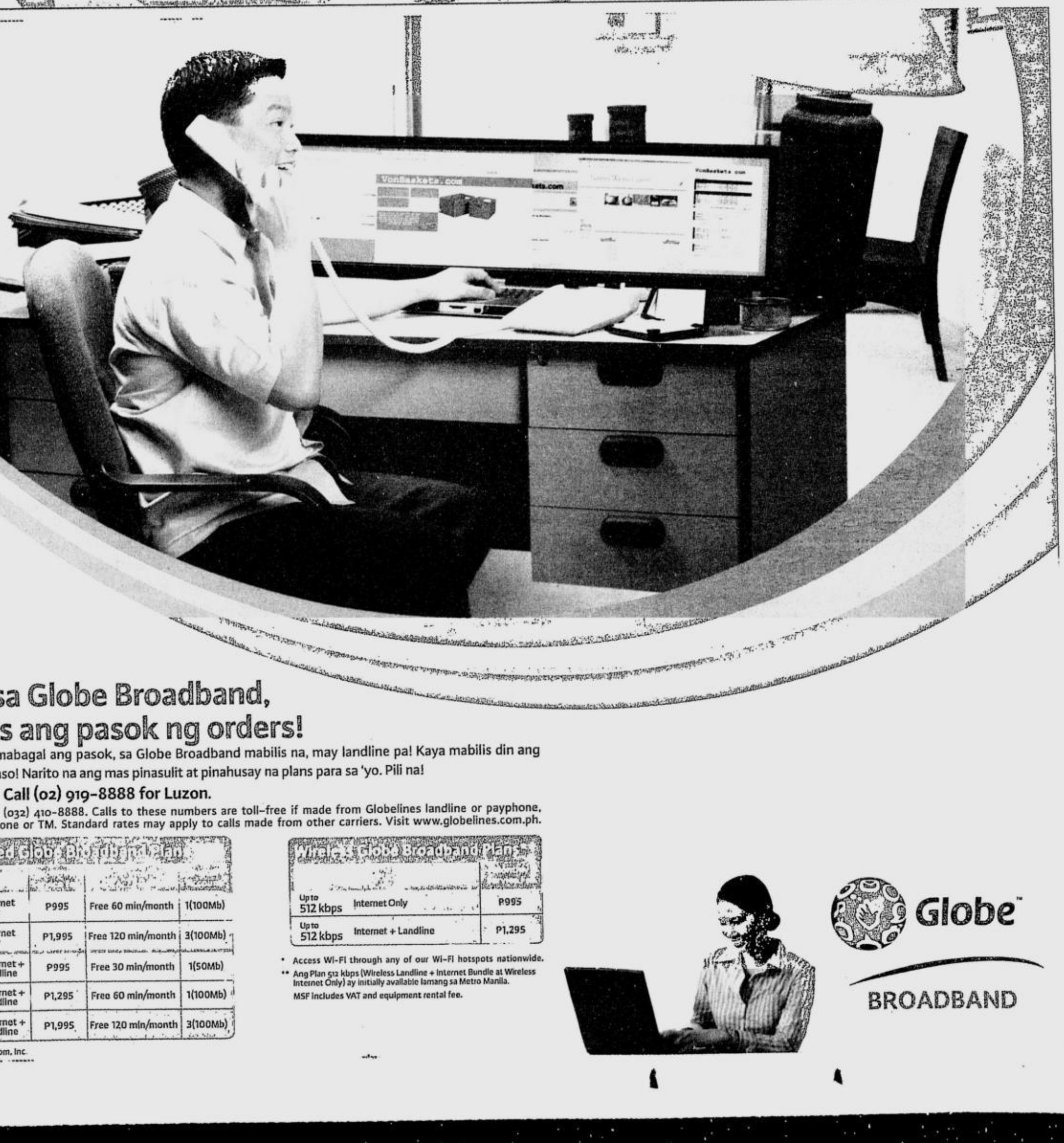
Kara David
Mga Batang Hiram
I-Witness, GMA 7
Outstanding Televised Feature on Youth and Education

Donelle Gan and Carlito Reyes
The Plagiarism Plague
The La Sallian
Outstanding Feature on Youth and Education in a School Publication

Nestor Cuartero
A Bridge For the Kids
Manila Bulletin
Outstanding Feature on De La Salle University-Manila

The future begins here.™
www.dlsu.edu.ph

The Lasallian Scholarum glass sculpture, designed and crafted by Ramon Orlina, is a symbol of the transforming power of truth that is vital in the development of the Filipino youth and their education.



Dahil sa Globe Broadband, mabilis ang pasok ng orders!

Kung dating mabagal ang pasok, sa Globe Broadband mabilis na, may landline pa! Kaya mabilis din ang pasok ng asenso! Narito na ang mas pinasulit at pinahusay na plans para sa 'yo. Pili na!

Apply now! Call (02) 919-8888 for Luzon.

For VisMin, call (032) 410-8888. Calls to these numbers are toll-free if made from Globelines landline or payphone, Globe Handyphone or TM. Standard rates may apply to calls made from other carriers. Visit www.globelines.com.ph.

Wired Globe Broadband Plans

Up to 1.5 Mbps	Internet Only	P995	Free 60 min/month	1(100Mb)
Up to 3 Mbps	Internet Only	P1,995	Free 120 min/month	3(100Mb)
Up to 384 kbps	Internet + Landline	P995	Free 30 min/month	1(50Mb)
Up to 1 Mbps	Internet + Landline	P1,295	Free 60 min/month	1(100Mb)
Up to 2 Mbps	Internet + Landline	P1,995	Free 120 min/month	3(100Mb)

Wireless Globe Broadband Plans

Up to 512 kbps	Internet Only	P995
Up to 512 kbps	Internet + Landline	P1,295

* Access Wi-Fi through any of our Wi-Fi hotspots nationwide.
** Ang Plan 512 kbps (Wireless Landline + Internet Bundle at Wireless Internet Only) ay initially available lamang sa Metro Manila.
MSF includes VAT and equipment rental fee.

Globe BROADBAND

© 2007 Globe Telecom, Inc.

Comelec hits Bedol lawyer

THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS yesterday scored the lawyer of former Maguindanao election supervisor Lintang Bedol for saying that the latter's camp expected the poll body to uphold its earlier decision to convict Bedol for contempt.

Comelec spokesperson James Jimenez said Bedol's lawyer Andrei Tagum showed his contempt for the Comelec after he admitted that Bedol was "half-expecting" the Comelec to junk his motion for reconsideration.

"If we go by the history of the commission, I don't think they have ever reversed their decision because that would be an admission that they erred," Tagum was quoted as saying in media reports.

Tagum said Bedol would ask the Supreme Court to overturn the Comelec's decision.

Jimenez explained that when a quasi-judicial body such as the Comelec declines to reverse its decision on a motion for reconsideration, "it is because the arguments in the motion do not justify reversal, or because the motion failed to present any new arguments, that is, different from—or perhaps better than—those that led to the original adverse decision."

"It strikes me as being extremely arrogant for defeated lawyers to claim that the tribunal before which they are arguing is composed of petty men who would rather perpetuate an injustice than to admit their error," he added.

Comelec meted on Bedol a six-month jail term and a fine of P1,000 after he was found guilty of four counts of indirect contempt.

The case stemmed from his failure to attend the scheduled canvassing of Maguindanao votes and the hearing of Task Force Maguindanao which looked into alleged poll cheating in the province, as well as his unlawful assumption of custody of poll documents which he eventually lost, his challenge to the Comelec to sue him for his absences, and for boasting to media that he had a cache of firearms. *Jerome Aning*

Bulacan cop chief told to stay put

By Alcuin Papa

EMBATTLED BULACAN PROVINcial police commander Senior Supt. Asher Dolina has been ordered to stay put after local officials petitioned for his removal.

Interior and Local Government secretary Ronaldo Puno already warned Bulacan local officials that they could be charged with violating the law if they persist in having Dolina replaced.

He said the Philippine National Police assigned Dolina in Bulacan to implement its "peace and order programs" and that it was the duty of local government officials to support him.

"A withdrawal of support for a legitimate peace and order program is tantamount to the dereliction of their duties," Puno said, adding that the violation constitutes an administrative violation.

He said it was "wrong" of local officials to pick their police commanders. "Our police are not their errand boys. They are supposed to be partners in public service. The era of private armies is over."

Besides, he said the choice of police commanders belongs solely to the PNP.

Puno added that if local officials had any complaint against their police commanders, they should be forwarded to his office.

Last Friday, Bulacan local officials filed a petition for the removal of Dolina because of his alleged lackluster performance in fighting crime in the province. The officials also called for the return of Supt. Jesus Gatchalian. The petition was signed by Bulacan Gov. Joselito Mendoza and 21 other mayors. The officials also filed a petition before the Bulacan courts.

But Puno said Gatchalian would never be returned to Bulacan.

"If they have any complaints [against Dolina], they should put it in writing and submit it to the Napolcom (National Police Commission). I am just here, they can come and talk to me anytime," Puno said, noting that most of the Bulacan officials were members of his political party, Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino (Kampi), which he chairs.

Puno said he heard rumors that Dolina had conflicts with some of the local officials. He did not elaborate.

For his part, Dolina said he could easily move to another post. "But they (local officials) don't understand the (selection) process."

He also said he was willing to submit himself to an investigation of any wrongdoing.

We're in the business of

saving lives.

Facts you need to know about breastfeeding.

Breastfeeding is the single most cost-effective measure to prevent child deaths.

Worldwide, scientific experts agree that breastfeeding saves lives.

According to the Lancet Child Survival Series 2003[1], 19% of all underfive deaths worldwide can be prevented through optimal breastfeeding and complementary feeding.

Optimal breastfeeding means:

- initiate breastfeeding within an hour after birth
- exclusive breastfeeding for six months
- continue breastfeeding while giving safe, affordable and indigenous complementary foods, for two years and beyond

In the Philippines, about 82,000 underfive children die every year. Therefore, optimal breastfeeding could prevent 16,000 deaths yearly.

Globally, optimal breastfeeding can prevent 1.3 million child deaths.

[1]The Lancet is the world's leading independent medical journal. Founded 180 years ago, The Lancet is an authoritative voice in global medicine. "Our commitment to international health ensures that research and analysis from all regions of the world is widely covered" (www.thelancet.com/about).

Compared to breastfed children, formula-fed children have increased risks for sickness, death and lower IQ.

Compared to breastfed babies, formula-fed babies have:

- a five-fold risk of diarrhoea[2] and 16.7-fold risk of pneumonia[3] -- two of the main causes of deaths among Filipino children
- 40-50% increased risk of developing asthma and wheeze[4]
- IQ 3-7 points lower, up to adulthood[5]

Even in developed countries with good hygiene and clean water, breastfed babies had[6]:

- 50% reduction of acute ear infection
- 64% reduction in the risks of non-specific gastroenteritis
- 72% reduction in the risk of hospitalization due to lower respiratory tract diseases

[2] Popkin BM et al. Breastfeeding and diarrheal morbidity. Pediatrics. 1990 Dec: 86(6): 874-82;

[3] Leon-Cava N. Quantifying the benefits of breastfeeding: A summary of the evidence. Pan American Health Organization: 2002; Edmond KM, Zandoh C, Quigley MA, Pediatrics. 2006: 177:380-384; Cesar JA, Victoria CG, Barros FC et al. Impact of breastfeeding on admission for pneumonia during postneonatal period in Brazil: Nested case-control study. British Medical Journal 1999: 318:1316-20.

[4] Dell S, To T. Breastfeeding and asthma in young children. Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine 2001:155:1261-1265; and, Oddy WH et al. Maternal asthma, infant feeding, and the risk for asthma in childhood. Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. 2002:110:65-67.

[5] WHO, Evidence on the long-term effects of breastfeeding: systematic reviews and meta-analysis, 2007.

[6] Tufts-New England Medical Center Evidence-Based Practice Center, 2007)

More children in the Philippines should receive the benefits of optimal breastfeeding.

The National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) provides the most accurate means of measuring breastfeeding. In 2003 NDHS[7]:

- 13.5% of infants are never breastfed – making the Philippines the worst compared to 56 countries.
- 54% of women breastfeed within 1 hour of birth. Again, this is one of the lowest breastfeeding initation rates in the world.
- By 4-5 months, only 16% are exclusively breastfed.
- 39% of infants use infant formula in the first year of life. Of these, 28% belong to families living on less than P100 a day.

The World Health Assembly recognizes that the marketing of breastmilk substitutes requires special treatment, because of "the vulnerability of infants ... and the risks involved in inappropriate feeding practices"[8].

The Philippines is a member of the World Health Assembly and a signatory of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.

[7] National Statistics Office (Philippines) and ORC Macro, 2004. National Demographic and Health Survey 2003.

[8]WHO. International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, 1981.

Department of Health | World Health Organization | United Nations Children's Fund

The big reveal: How model cities govern

From page A1

They share the power and responsibilities of governance with those who have stakes in their communities and institutions, involving them every step of the way to reach commonly agreed aims and targets.

PGS-proficient

Tagbilaran, Marikina and San Fernando were recognized as public governance system (PGS)-proficient cities at the two-day 2007 Public Governance Forum in Pasay City last week, dubbed the 'Mahal Ko Ang Pilipinas' (I Love the Philippines) forum.

They were three of 24 cities that adopted the PGS system, which is an adaptation of a corporate governance tool called the "balance scorecard system," a strategic approach that directly connects the objectives of a company or local government to its operations.

Introduced by the International Solidarity in Asia (ISA) in 2004, the PGS is also being practiced in 14 sectors and six national public institutions. The ISA is an independent, non-partisan and non-profit institution which seeks to improve public governance.

PMA too

"A PGS-proficient city means that these cities have mayors that are committed towards good governance, that they have highly involved constituents and sectoral groups, and that their governments have discipline and are transparent," said ISA chair and president Jesus P. Estanislao.

The Philippine Military Academy under its superintendent, Maj. Gen. Leopoldo Maligalig, was also recognized as a PGS-proficient institution.

Estanislao said that while Filipinos are used to blaming their leaders for the inadequacies and failures of government, the PGS system teaches both leaders and citizens to think past government personalities and focus instead on active citizen participation. This is what makes good public governance sustainable, he said.

The ISA has partnered with the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) and the National Competitiveness Council to "aid cities in crafting programs that will push the competitiveness rating of the country."

It has also teamed up with the AIM to develop "tools to gauge and track a city's progress" and with the Netherlands government to "sustain the institutionalization of the PGS in select Philippine cities."

The PGS will be one of five case studies to be featured in the Global Public Sector Summit in Washington, D.C. in October.

Marikina's vision

Being PGS-proficient means Marikina, Tagbilaran and San Fernando are about six months to one year away from institutionalizing the PGS in their own public governance systems.

The participating cities started off three years ago by drafting their objectives and plans for their cities.

The ISA conducts a twice-a-year audit of the participating cities and groups to see if they are on the way toward achieving their goals.

Marikina's vision for itself is to become a model city in competitiveness, not just in the Philippines, but in Southeast Asia by 2015. In her presentation, Fernando said that Marikina was working towards this goal, using such indicators as honest, transparent and business-friendly government, a clean and green environment, efficient delivery of basic services, good infrastructure and financial stability.

The free medical and dental services at the health centers is one of the concrete results of the PGS system in Marikina. The privilege card is an example of how the people's taxes are working for them, she said.

The city has also relocated 30,000 families and is on its way towards being squatter-free by 2010, she said.

Fernando said business permits have been streamlined to encourage businesses to locate and invest in the city to create more jobs. The city is also aiming to eradicate unemployment in three years.

Tagbilaran aims to become a prime ecotourism hub by 2015. In line with this, Lim said the city is focusing on environmental protection to preserve the marine-protected areas of Bohol.

Tagbilaran tops quality of life

He said the city has already rehabilitated about 80 percent of its coral reef cover. It has reduced solid waste disposal by 20 percent, with 65 percent of the city's residents practicing segregation of solid waste at source.

Tagbilaran was also one of the first cities to phase out the two-stroke engine in tricycles through a credit system that allows tricycle drivers to buy on installment the more environmentally compliant four-stroke engine.

The Tagbilaran city government has also provided indigent families with the Blue Card that entitles them to free hospitalization in the city's two major hospitals. Lim said the program brings to 99 percent the number of city residents with health insurance coverage.

Tagbilaran also topped the Asian Institute of Management's recent quality of life survey among cities with a population of 200,000 and below.

San Fernando and the parol

San Fernando's stated goal is to become the regional growth center of the Central Luzon region. It has streamlined local government policy and practices to make it conducive for foreign and local businesses to locate there. It succeeded in attracting about P481 million in new investments in 2006.

The city's renowned *parol* (Christmas lantern) has been chosen by the national government as the model for the "one-town-one-product" project in 2006, aimed at marketing the product to the world market.

Rodriguez also said that some 6,000 urban families affected by the construction of the Northrail project are being resettled by the city government.

The city government is also funding the education of some 8,000 scholars who are receiving information and communication technology (ICT) training so they can compete for jobs locally and abroad.

The city has also built 35 school buildings to accommodate 150,000 students in the next 10 years through the city's special education fund, Rodriguez said.

People's commitment

In the PMA's case, Maligalig said the shift to long-term institutional development has, among others, improved the success rate of graduates from 36.8 percent to 64 percent.

The mayors of the three cities agreed that the secret of making public governance work is the people's commitment towards achieving a vision for their city.

"Our people have an open mind and an open heart. This comes from the collective effort of the people," said Lim.

It is having capable constituents who know enough to put the right person in a position of leadership, said Fernando.

Good governance is just the commitment of both the people and their leader towards achieving a vision for their city, according to Rodriguez.

For Lim, it is simply "loving your own city."

Essentially participating

"Governance is essentially participatory. It is not only of those at the top, it is also a responsibility of those in the middle and at the bottom. It is the concern of everyone. It is a matter for both the governors and the governed," said Estanislao.

At the end of the day, the PGS system shows that doing good pays, he said.

The principles of governance are not hard-to-reach concepts, they are, in fact, basic ethical principles, said another speaker at the forum.

The governance principles of transparency and disclosure are just echoes of the commandments "Thou shall not lie" and "Thou shall not steal," he said.

SWS survey: Pardon Erap, say 48% of Metro folk

From page A1

said they didn't know how to respond.

The Sandiganbayan decision on Estrada's plunder case is widely expected to be handed down in the next two weeks.

The special division created to try the former President has 90 days to decide on his fate from the time the trial ended in June. The 90-day period ends on Sept. 15.

The study was conducted by the SWS from July 18 to July 20 in Metro Manila, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal.

GMA has the power

There were 600 respondents—300 from the metropolitan area, 80 from Bulacan, 80 from Cavite, 70 from Laguna and 70 from Rizal.

The survey had an error margin of plus or minus four percent.

The respondents were asked the following question in Filipino: "President Arroyo has the power to give pardon to whoever is convicted of a crime. If ever the Sandiganbayan declares former President Estrada guilty of the crime of plunder, in your opinion, should President Arroyo give pardon immediately, pardon after some time or not at all?"

Sentiment among D and E

The survey showed that 47 percent and 58 percent of respondents from classes D and E, respectively, wanted Estrada to be pardoned immediately.

Thirty-one percent from the classes ABC had the same sentiment.

According to the survey, 48 percent of those from classes ABC believed Estrada should be pardoned "after some time."

Classes ABC

The highest number of respondents who didn't want Estrada pardoned came from classes ABC, with 17 percent.

Those from classes D and E who didn't want Estrada pardoned represented 12 percent from each group.

Fifty percent of the respondents from Metro Manila wanted Estrada pardoned immediately while 47 percent of the respondents from the nearby provinces believed the same way.

No pardon, at all

Thirty-six percent from Metro Manila wanted him pardoned after some time while 39 percent from the nearby areas also wanted it that way.

Only 13 percent from the metropolitan area wanted him not pardoned at all, and 12 percent from the adjacent provinces also wanted him to stay in jail.

Erap wants no clemency

Estrada's plunder case arose from his alleged involvement in the illegal numbers game "*jueteng*"—an allegation that led to his impeachment in late 2000 and eventual ouster in a People Power revolt in January 2001.

The former President has said that he doesn't want executive clemency from Ms Arroyo, saying a presidential pardon is only for the guilty.

"Why should I accept executive clemency? I am not guilty of anything," Estrada said in one of his interviews.

Estrada has expressed belief that his defense has done a good job of demolishing the accusations of the prosecution, particularly those made by the chief whistleblower and his former drinking pal, former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis Singson.

64% trust rating

Estrada has said that his only fear is that political pressure might play a role in the decision to be rendered by the Sandiganbayan magistrates.

The SWS survey commissioned by the opposition also showed that Estrada continued to enjoy much more trust among the people than his successor.

The poll results showed Estrada enjoying a high trust rating, with 64 percent of the respondents saying they had "much trust" in the former president.

Nineteen percent of the respondents said they had "little trust" in him. The remaining 16 percent were undecided.

Eighteen percent of those surveyed said they had "much trust" in Ms Arroyo and 62 percent said they had "little trust" in her. Nineteen percent were undecided.

'Komiks' by Caparas returns big-time

From page A1

culation wouldn't dip.)

Honors for the dead

When President Macapagal-Arroyo gave in February the Presidential Medals of Merit to the five pillars of komiks—Tony Velasquez, Francisco V. Coching, Mars Ravelo, Larry Alcala and Caparas—it was like laying wreaths on tombs, as four of these people had already died, and so had the komiks.

People who grew up on it and have become busy adults do not realize that their favorite medium of entertainment, information and instruction as youngsters had long vanished from the cultural landscape. It was mostly blamed on the entrenchment of TV culture and the Internet.

Billion-peso industry

In its heyday, komiks was a billion-peso industry and was said to be even bigger than the movie industry. The two coexisted for decades as their relationship was often symbiotic. But with the coming of the so-called "alternative platforms" from which to access information and entertainment, there was no way for the komiks to go but out.

From an average circulation of nearly 200,000 copies a week in 1984, with half of the 200 komiks making money, it dropped to 2,000 in 2004 with only one circulating, Atlas Publication's Pilipino Komiks. That year, the lone survivor had to close.

And it wasn't the only ailing mass medium, either. Similar signs could be seen in newspapers which were also reeling from diminishing circulation.

Wild idea

Newspapers have since been taking various innovative measures to sell copies, short of resorting to a buy-one-take-one promo. Some do tie-ups with hamburger chains, others sponsor celebrity events.

The INQUIRER, true to its corporate image (resolutely A-B and Upper C readership), goes to the root of the problem and tries to solve the twin evils of illiteracy and diminishing readership.

One program being held in its premises is a series of reading sessions for kids, including street children and physically handicapped kids. It aims to cultivate a new generation of readers and make reading attractive again.

The INQUIRER also struck on a wild idea: To bring back readership and get a broader mass base, why not run komiks stories in the paper? What's more, the two mass mediums would be helping each other.

And so the INQUIRER went to Caparas. After all, the guy has written over 800 novels and short stories for komiks, and some 100 screenplays many of which he himself directed.

Last Tuesday, Caparas signed a contract to write for the nation's No. 1 newspaper what is now called a *"diario novela,"* with art by Arnel A. Avetria.

Caparas says a commissioner from the Komisyon ng Wika has asked him to revive the komiks as it can greatly help people learn the national language.

"KOMIKS RELIEF": The dynamic team of Komiks King Carlo J. Caparas and wife-collaborator Donna Villa take a break in Hong Kong from their hectic schedule reviving the komiks as a source of information and entertainment.

In the caravan he is doing with wife Donna Villa in the provinces, where he gives lectures and workshops on komiks writing and illustrating, he has seen how people have wanted the komiks to return.

Early this year, in a reunion of komiks writers, illustrators and various former employees of the defunct industry, he learned of the plight of his colleagues who lost their jobs. "Out of 10 people *na kinumusta ko*, eight had already died (Out of 10 people I asked about, eight had already died)," he recalls.

The INQUIRER venture may prove to be a blessing in disguise. It could all at once energize various industries and mediums—komiks, newspaper and movie. "They go hand in hand," says Caparas.

Source materials for movies

The movie industry is clearly also on a decline. But with the revival of the komiks, who knows what source materials movie directors could find to activate their art, as it once did with people like Lino Brocka and Eddie Garcia?

"May foothold ang nobela sa komiks bago ipagawa sa pelikula (Novels have a foothold in comics before they become movies)," says Caparas.

He means a movie based on komiks would already have a built-in readership, which could then translate into a box-office hit.

And a revived industry, of course, would generate jobs. After all, the komiks has not really died. It was just in a three-year coma.

Magdalo cooks up another coup: A soldier's cookbook

From page A1

Navy Ensigns Elmer D. Cruz and Emerson R. Rosales, both bachelors, who graduated from the Philippine Military Academy in 2000.

Their recipes tell stories from their childhood, from years at the PMA, from stints at sea, from days in detention and the tedious court martial hearing which has been ongoing for more than four years, and from their yearning to be free.

Like the Oakwood mutiny which was participated in by soldiers from the Navy, Army, Air Force and Marines, "Pulutan" is also a composite adventure.

Among the featured recipes is "Calamares a la Trillanes," contributed by Navy lieutenant, now Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV. It was rated "five mugs of beer," or an A-1 dish.

Life after detention

Going on a big eating-and-drinking "gimik" once they are released is a pact they have made among themselves, said 30-year-old Cruz.

"(Looking forward to) Life after detention is something that sustains us," he wrote in the book's "Fried Pulutan" section.

"In detention, anniversaries acquire a special meaning," Rosales also added in the ATBP section.

For his 26th birthday in 2005, Rosales said he wanted to serve something different from the usual detention birthday fare of spaghetti and fried chicken.

He thought of his father's "Turbo Spareribs," had the ingredients bought, and cooked it with the entire detention population hovering nearby.

"Drinking, of course, is not allowed in detention. But that didn't prevent us from having a great meal," Rosales, a dog breeder and proprietor of the Great Outdoor Hammocks, said.

'Iron chef'

The authors said they learned cooking as an art and adventure from their classmate and fellow detainee, Ensign Cesar Pangan Jr., dubbed "our iron chef."

Banned from using cellular phones and the Internet, Rosales and Cruz said they solicited the recipes from other rebel soldiers during court hearings, and tested the recipes at the kitchen in Fort San Felipe.

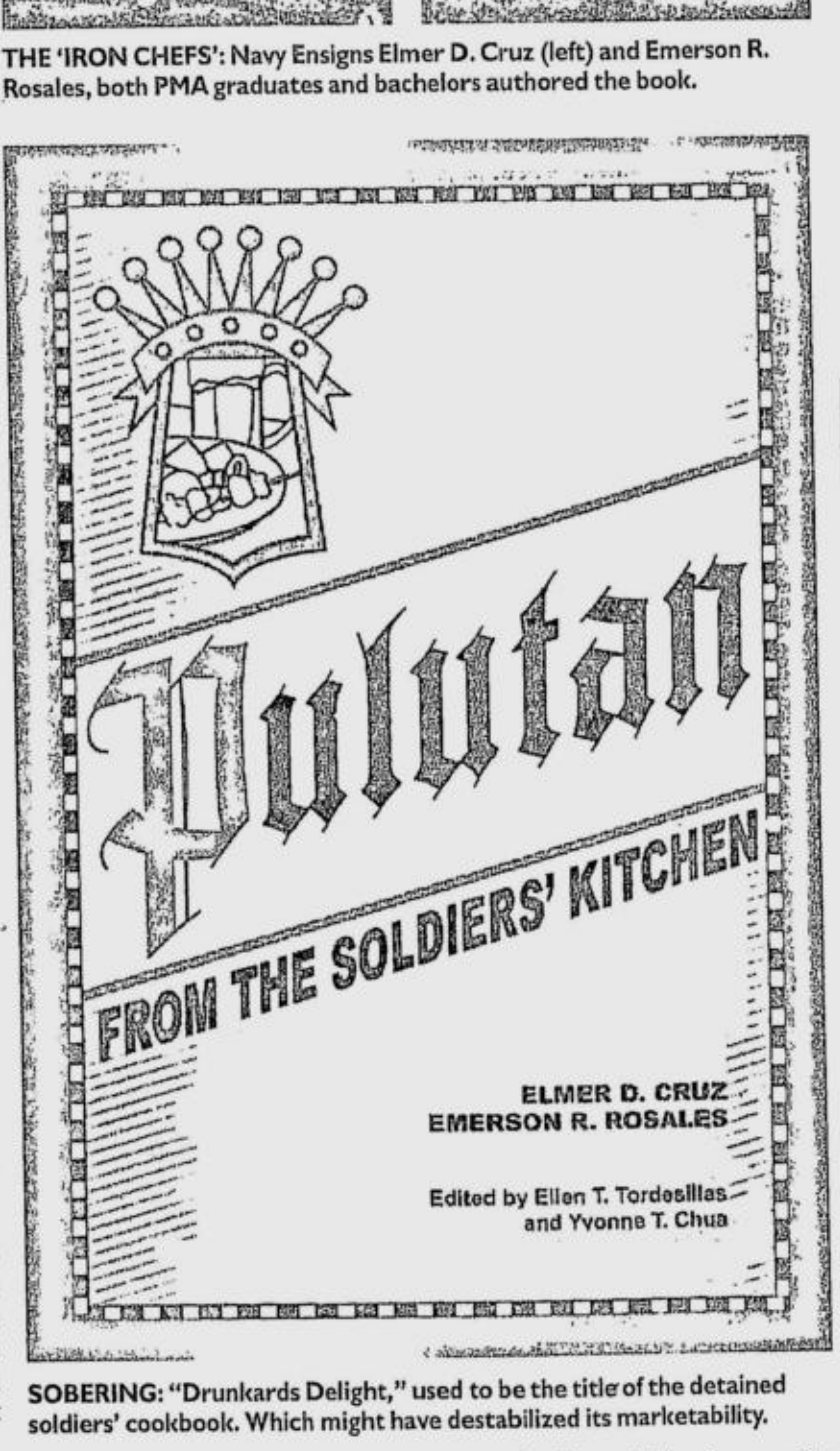
Parents, girlfriends, siblings, families and friends who visit them also gave their inputs, and contributed ingredients so that the detainees could try out the recipes before printing, Rosales and Cruz said.

Rosales said that the rare and exotic dish, "Kinilaw na Tamilok (woodworm)," for instance, was contributed by Clyde, the wife of detained Ensign Jeff Daquilanea. Known as an aphrodisiac in Palawan, tamilok is a woodworm that feeds on mangrove wood, Rosales said.

Looking for publisher

"Our contributors have tried out the recipes in this book and stake their honor on them. As to the state of their intoxication, that is an altogether different matter," the authors wrote.

THE 'IRON CHEFS': Navy Ensigns Elmer D. Cruz (left) and Emerson R. Rosales, both PMA graduates and bachelors authored the book.



SOBERING: "Drunkards Delight," used to be the title of the detained soldiers' cookbook. Which might have destabilized its marketability.

It was also during a break in the court hearings that detained Air Force Lt. Ashley Acedillo told Malaya columnist Ellen Tordesillas about his friends who were looking for a publisher for their cookbook.

Tordesillas said Acedillo introduced her to Cruz and Rosales, who showed her their book-bound compilation of pulutan recipes titled "Drunkards' Delight." Tordesillas informed Karina Bolasco of Anvil about this cookbook.

Destabilizing palate

Acedillo had suggested jazzing up the cookbook with anecdotes, which the authors managed to write. They then passed the handwritten manuscript to Tordesillas during one court hearing.

Tordesillas said Anvil agreed to publish it under a "better, more commercial" title. The recipes were also subjected to a kitchen test by Anvil's food experts, who recommended that they tone down the spiciness of some dishes because it was "destabilizing to the palate."

"There was so much *siling labuyo* (native chili pepper) in some dishes," said Tordesillas, who edited the book with Yvonne Chua.

And because it was felt that politics and gastronomy do not mix, Tordesillas said the soldiers' cookbook does not feature "seditious" recipes such as "Camaron Esperon," "Grilled fresh computer diskettes," "Bloodless mutiny No. 5," "Napaupong Pangulo sa Palayok" or "Buttered Negotiation a la Cimatu (with a twist)."

BALINESE ROOF SHAKES
An Asian design for your home

Homebuilders are now turning to designs that capture the natural beauty of the shores and forests of Southeast Asia.

Some call this design Balinese, others Asian.

Multi-Line has the roofing material exactly for this design - MetroShake.

It's not tiles, for that would look Japanese or Mediterranian.

MetroShake simulates wood from Asian forests cut into roof shakes.

It's the next best thing to the natural thatched roof.

Made of zincalume steel in New Zealand, MetroShake carries a warranty of 30 years.

That's something you would expect from a roofing that will survive the Asian hot sun, typhoons and bellowing roars of salt water by the shores.

The art is in the roof.

And Multi-Line will get you there!

Quezon City ☎ 929-9911, 412-8285 · Angeles ☎ 892-1858 · Mandaue ☎ 346-5413 · Iloilo ☎ 338-1355 · Davao ☎ 299-2694 · CDO ☎ 720-752 · GenSan ☎ 552-3700

Multi-Line · To view our products, visit our website www.multi-linegroup.com · Simply Creative

DOH, hospitals set talks to avert 'holiday'

By Jerome Aning and Dona Z. Pazzibugan

TOP HEALTH OFFICIALS WILL HOLD A dialogue on Wednesday with members of the Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines to convince them to call off their planned "hospital holiday" this month to protest a new law prohibiting hospitals from detaining charity patients.

In a radio interview over dzRB, Health Secretary Francisco Duque appealed to PHAP members to take pity on sick people that would be affected by the holiday.

"I think the move will affect many patients. The DOH and local government units, of course, can take up the slack but it won't send a good message if our hospitals are to go on holiday," Duque said.

Philhealth-accredited

He reminded PHAP that its member-hospitals have accreditation agreements with the Philippine Health Insurance (PhilHealth) that allows PhilHealth members to avail of medical services. PHAP has about 500 member-hospitals.

But Duque added that public hospitals could cope with an increase in outpatient consultation once the hospital holiday begins.

On Friday, PHAP spokesperson Rustico Jimenez said the group was planning to push through with their hospital holiday beginning this month, adding that it may last until 2008.

Jimenez, however, assured patients they would still attend to emergency cases, and would only reserve the right not to treat "nonemergency" outpatient cases.

He also said that the public would be informed of the scheduled hospital holiday one week in advance.

Under the plan, Jimenez said, participating private hospitals will reject nonemergency cases for one to two days every month starting this September until the law is repealed.

PHAP wants the government to repeal a law allowing patients who have not settled their bills to be discharged from the hospital by just signing promissory notes.

Hospital's protection

"We want that law repealed or amended to protect hospitals. Otherwise, hospitals will run out of doctors and nurses who would rather leave and work abroad. We know that in most cases, promissory notes are not paid," Jimenez said.

PHAP's threat to declare a hospital holiday appears to be working in their favor.

One of the principal sponsors of the new law in the Senate has already abandoned her hardline stance in the face of the planned boycott.

Sen. Pilar Julianna "Pia" Cayetano said she was now willing to amend Republic Act 9439 or the Hospital Detention Law, so long as the PHAP calls off their planned "hospital holiday."

"For my part, I am open to a dialogue with them on possible amendments to include specific provisions to protect their financial viability," Cayetano said in a statement.

She however insisted the newly-signed law has enough "safeguards" against abuses by patients who do not settle their bills.

PHAP's 500 members which include some of the biggest hospitals in Metro Manila, had planned to go on a "hospital holiday" last May but the Department of Health convinced them to participate in formulating the law's implementing rules and regulations (IRR).

"We are not satisfied with the IRR. We made recommendations but they rejected it. The law and the IRR are one-sided. They do not provide protection to hospitals," Jimenez has said.

But Cayetano said that the law's implementing rules and regulations have yet to be finalized.

She also pointed out that the new law applies only to charity patients and does not cover paying patients or those in private rooms.

DUQUE ERIK ARAZAS

HOLIDAYS ARE COMING
LET'S GO INTO BUSINESS
e-Commerce
The latest trend in distri juting basic consumer goods
Know why some people that PUREFOODS responded to this Ad are now happily earning more than P50,000 per month PART TIME!
Join our team of:
* Franchises
* Outlets
* Foodcart Owners
* Distributors
Attend the FREE ENTREPRENEUR'S ORIENTATION
Sept 4 (Tue)
& Sept 8 (Sat)
10 AM SHARP
SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION
JCS CORPORATE OFFICE
G/f Octagon Bldg., San Miguel Ave.,
(Across San Miguel Bldg., area behind Megamall)
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Bring this AD for *free snacks & product giveaways*
Reservation is FREE! Please text your name and the day you'd like to attend to:
09165426441 / 09217815000

The Latest Anti-aging Technology
- Intravascular Laser Irradiation in Blood (ILIB), using low level He-Ne Laser
- Ultramodern, safe, effective, non-invasive, biochelation treatment for:
  - Blood Cleansing and detoxification, Improve Heart and Brain Circulation, rejuvenation
  - Very useful and effective for diabetics, hypertension, stroke, arthritis, insomnia and pain due to cancer

More information is at:
Room 234 De Los Santos STI Medical Center
Tel. No. 411-1952; 0917-4196237

Debt, population growth keeping us poor—Lagman

By Norman Bordadora

MASSIVE DEBT PAYments and rapid population growth have kept the country's poor from enjoying the fruits of what the President claims to be a record economic growth rate, according to the chair of the House budget panel.

Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman, chair of the powerful committee on appropriations that will review Malacañang's budget plan for 2008, said the 7.5 percent growth rate in the country's gross domestic product is real but so are "population expansion and huge debt service."

"The twin problems of excessive population growth and debt service derail and dilute the expected trickle-down effect of economic growth," he said.

Lagman chair of the House budget panel for the next year-and-a-half, said he intends to scrutinize Malacañang's budget proposal for debt payments that stand at almost P300 million—a considerable portion of the P1.2-trillion plan.

"Economic growth should be complemented by a comprehensive national policy on reproductive health and population management as well as innovative acceptable modes of debt reduction and condonation," Lagman said in an interview.

"The chief executive must think of creative ways to ease our debt burden [as] many countries are already enjoying debt condonation," he said.

Lagman said he's amenable to Speaker Jose de Venecia's proposal for debt swap schemes that would mean reduced obligations if the country allocates funds for Millennium Development Goals such as less incidence of poverty and improved ecology.

Despite an existing law giving automatic appropriation for debt servicing, Lagman said he would push for a "selective automatic appropriation."

He has refiled in the 14th Congress a bill that seeks to repeal the law mandating automatic appropriations on debt payments.

An advocate of population control, Lagman has also filed a bill providing for a national policy on reproductive health, responsible parenthood and population development.

"Joblessness and poverty cannot be overcome by economic growth alone if the population problem and debt menace are not contained," Lagman said.

"If we are able to effectively mitigate population explosion and reduce debt service, economic growth will not only trickle down but may also cascade to the grassroots," he said.

MULTICABS : CARS : VANS : SUV'S : ATV MOTORCYCLE : GENERATORS : CHAINSAW : BUFFING MACHINE
BIG WHEELS w/ sMall Wheels
10 DAY SALE
AUG. 31 - SEPT. 9, 2007
- Multi Cabs
- Quality 2nd Hand Cars/Vans
- Car Slot For Rent
- Business Opportunities
- Other Motor Related Product

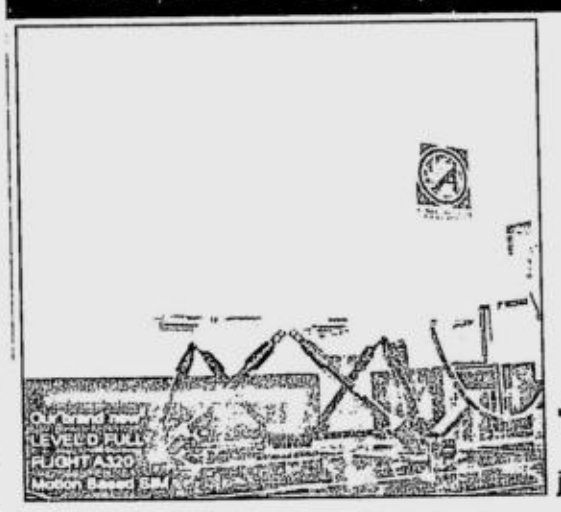
2nd Level South Wing Metropolis Alabang Mall
CALL: 8078797 / 8110170 / 8448714 / 8999828
HURRY UP! ALL ITEMS MUST GO!
SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE! SALE!

SAINT MARY'S College of San Juan
CHED Government Recognition No. 012
wishes to congratulate
- James Kenneth Go Chua
- Francis Peter Eduard Espenilla Siy
- Janete Buencosejo Somido
- Jay Santillan San Pedro
- Jimenez Ma. Alfredo Geolingo Bite
- Maria Katrina Paola Pirante Pableo
- Noefred Ungos Bruce
- Rosalinda Limjoco Fernandez
- Vanessa Josephine Lagman Cabral
- Veronica Aguilar Yu

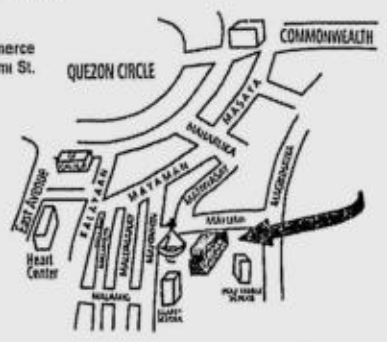
for successfully passing the June 2007 Chiropractic Licensure Exam
NEW Chiropractic Lic. No. 7218938 to 39

We Buy Diamonds! Cash Paid Instantly
Accepts diamonds 2 carats and up preferably round, emerald or old miner's cut.
Guaranteed to give you the HIGHEST appraisal for your diamonds!
Only at
JOAILLIER Fine Jewelry
Ground Floor, Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center, Makati City
Mondays to Saturdays 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
All transactions strictly confidential!
Tel Nos. 817-8855 • 815-3191 • 0926-7093612

Let The Most Influential Visa Expert Handle Yor Case
ATTY. GLENN ROSE
USA IMMIGRATION LAWYER
OVER 20 YRS. OF EXPERIENCE IN ALL AREAS OF US IMMIGRATION
ATTN: ALL PROFESSIONALS (SKILLED/TECH./MEDICAL)
PARTIAL LIST ONLY.....
MASTERAL DEGREE PROF.*REGISTERED NURSES*PHYSICA THERAPISTS*OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS*SPED TEACHERS* SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPISTS*SCIENCE TEACHERS* BILINGUAL STUDIES TEACHER*BUSINESS OWNERS*TRADERS* INVESTORS NURSE AIDES,ORDERLIES*PATIENT ASSOCIATES* PATIENT ASSOCIATES*NURSE SUPERVISORS*OTHERS PROF.IN HEALTH*RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS*CLINICAL PERFUSIONISTS CARDIO PULMONARY TECHNOLOGISTS*LONG HAND TRUCK DRIVERS*LABOURERS IN PROCESSING & MANUFACTURING & UTILITIES*MACHINE OPERATORS & RELATED WORKERS IN TEXTILE PROCESSING*PATERN MAKERS TEXTILE HEALTH & FUR PRODUCTS
Specializing in the ff. visas
GREEN CARDS, FAMILY PETITIONS, WORKING VISAS *EMPLOYMENT BASED GREENCARDS * FIANCE/SPOUSAL PETITIONS * BUSINESS VISA OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTREPRENEURS/E-1 - E-2 *INVESTORS * STUDENT VISAS * MANAGER'S VISA (L-1) * ADJUSTMENT/CHANGE OF STATUS * DEPORTATION CASES *OTHER VISA CONCERNS/ PROBLEMS AND COMPLICATED CASES * TOURIST/VISITORS VISA *TEMPORARY RESIDENCE VISAS// VISA 'R VISA/TRAINEE VISA/CAREGIVER VISA'
THE HIGHEST RATE OF US VISA APPROVALS!!!
SEMINAR VISA SCREENING SCHEDULE
September 15, 2007 @ 3Pm (Sat.) @ MAKATI SPORTS CLUB, Lovina St. Salcedo Vill., Makati City
Sem. fee: PhP.1,250 Pre-paid / PhP.1,500 Walk-in
INS IMMIGRATION NETWORK SERVICES, INC. 891-5686 to 89 / 891-5920 / 891-5924

Would you like to be an AIRBUS A320 Pilot?

WORLD CLASS AVIATION TRAINING CENTER FOR PILOTS RIGHT HERE IN THE PHILIPPINES
APPLY TODAY
Assessment on-going
+63 917 808 1155
www.alphagroupclark.aero
jonathan@alphagroupclark.aero
CLARK AVIATION
World Class Training for International Aviation Personnel
1092 Jose Abad Santos Avenue, Clark Special Economic Zone, Pampanga 2009, Philippines
Experience our brand new LEVEL D FULL FLIGHT A320 Motion Based SIM

stock reduction SALE!
Up to 50% discount on selected items!
CLARETIAN BOOKSTORE
August 29 - Septemper 15, 2007

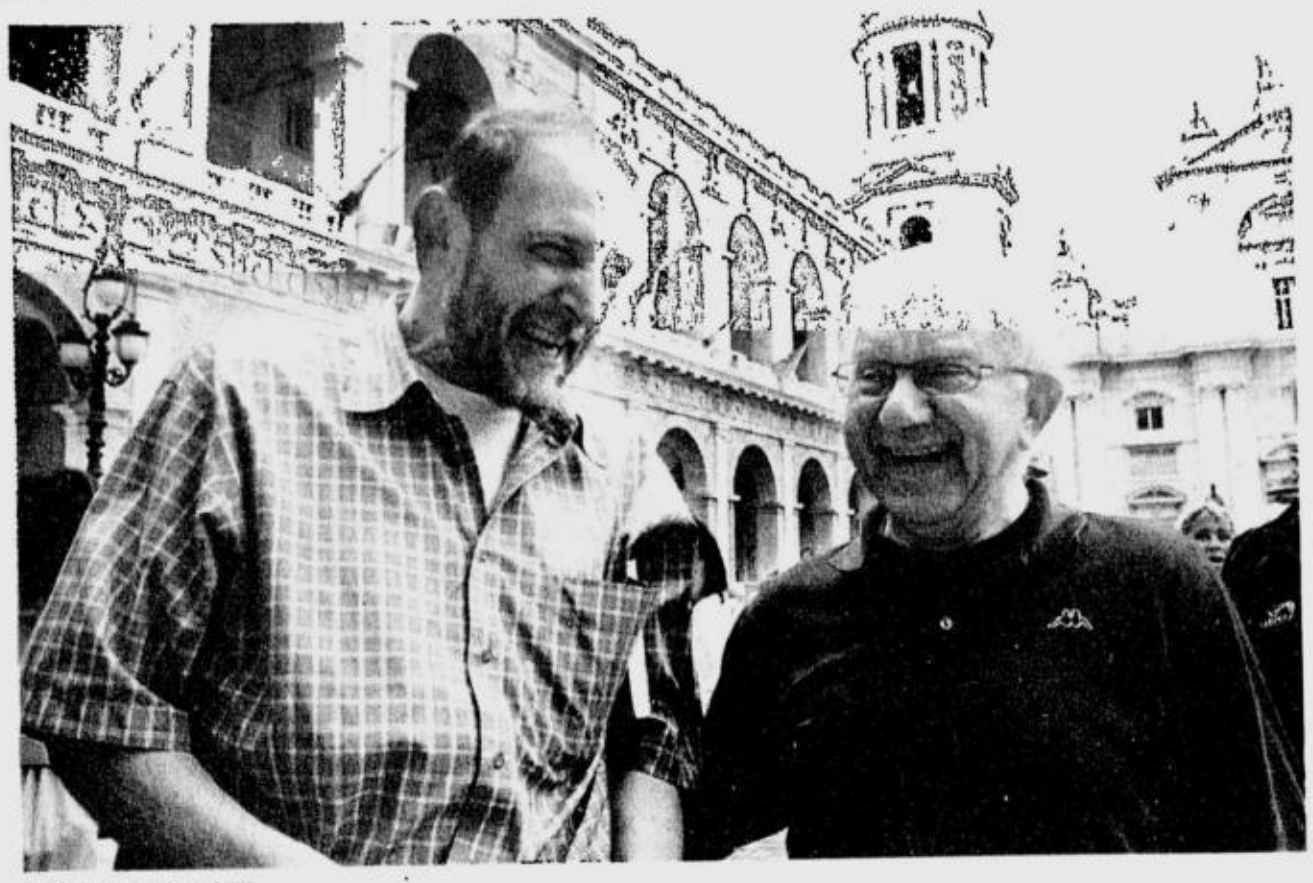
HOW TO GET THERE
With your own service:
- from QC City Hall turn right along Kalayaan Ave
- look for Eunlaine Foodmart
- turn left straight to Claret School, then turn left then right to Mayumi St.
For Commuters:
- take route going to Fairview
- stop at Philcoa
- take Red Tricycle near Bank of Commerce
- instruct for 8 Mayumi St.


For more inquiries, please call and look for: ALLAN, MADZ or GIRLIE
8 Mayumi St., U.P. Village, Diliman, Q.C.
Tel No: (02) 921-3984 • Fax No: (02) 921-6205
Email: cci@claret.org

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
School of Labor and Industrial Relations
(UP-SOLAIR)
NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for enrollment in its graduate program leading to:
- Diploma in Industrial Relations (Dip IR)
- Master of Industrial Relations (MIR)

You may specialize in any of the following:
- Human Resource Development
- Labor Management Relations
- Labor Policy and Administration
- Comparative Industrial Relations

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION: SEPT 25, 2007
ENTRANCE EXAMINATION DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2007
APPLICATION FORMS are available at the UP-SOLAIR, *Office of the College Secretary*, Bonifacio Hall, Jacinto St., UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES, Diliman, Quezon City.
☎ Nos. 928-6396, U.P. Trunklines 981-8500 local 4077
Fax No. 928-6396 or 920-7717
or visit our website : http://www.solair.upd.edu.ph



BOSSI AT HOME
Italian priest Giancarlo Bossi (left), who was kidnapped in Payao, Zamboanga Sibugay and released after 39 days, looks recovered from his experience, sharing laughs with Fr. Antonio Mazzi in the square of the Loreto Shrine on Friday. Bossi is scheduled to meet with Pope Benedict XVI who is attending a youth meeting on Sept. 1-2 in Loreto, central Italy. AFP

OFWs are proof of eco boom–Noli

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE PHILIPPINES WILL BECOME THE "next success story in Asia" despite political bickerings as long as the economy maintains its present growth course, according to Vice President Noli de Castro.

Answering critics who questioned the veracity of government's 7.5 percent second quarter growth figure, De Castro said the growing number of Filipinos employed abroad was proof of an economic boom.

The Vice President, speaking during the Centro Escolar University's Centennial Quality Awarding ceremonies in Manila yesterday, predicted even better days ahead because of what he said was "the quality of education that students were getting from schools today."

"Our educational system continues to produce quality graduates who can make it abroad," said De Castro, who is also the Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs).

He cited the benefits of having more OFWs, adding that Filipinos now live in a global economy where opportunities are open to all. Remittances from overseas workers have greatly benefited the country.

On his radio program, "Para Sa Iyo, Bayan," De Castro defended the government's growth report. He said that although cynics doubted the figures, developments, particularly in the countryside, abound.

GDP is the value of goods produced and services rendered, excluding remittances from abroad.

De Castro admitted that the reported 7.5 percent growth, the highest in 20 years, had not yet trickled down to the poor. But he added that it was a good start.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, when she announced the latest growth figures, said the Philippines was on its way to becoming a First World nation.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, September 2, 2007
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Sirac 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

Humble yourself.

My son, conduct your affairs with discretion and you will be loved by those who are acceptable to God.

The greater you are, the more you should humble yourself and thus you will find favor with God. For great is the power of the Lord and it is the humble who give him glory.

For the sufferings of the proud man there is no remedy, the roots of evil are implanted in him. The wise man reflects on proverbs. What the wise man desires is an attentive ear.

2nd Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

The city of the living God.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: nor heat of a blazing fire, darkness and gloom and storms, blasts of trumpets or such a voice that the people pleaded that no further word be spoken.

But you came near to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, to the heavenly Jerusalem with its innumerable angels. You have come to the solemn feast, the assembly of the firstborn of God, whose names are written in heaven. There is God, Judge of all, with the spirits of the upright brought to perfection. There is Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant, with the sprinkled blood that cries out more effectively than Abel's.

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

The humble will be exalted.

One Sabbath Jesus had gone to eat a meal in the house of a leading Pharisee, and he was carefully watched.

Jesus then told a parable to the guests, for he had noticed how they tried to take the places of honor. And he said, "When you are invited to a wedding party, do not choose the best seat. It may happen that someone more important than you has been invited, and your host, who invited both of you, will come and say to you: 'Please give this person your place.' What shame is yours when you take the lowest seat!

"Whenever you are invited, go rather to the lowest seat, so that your host may come and say to you: 'Friend, you must come up higher.' And this will be a great honor for you in the presence of all the other guests. For whoever makes himself out to be great will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be raised."

Jesus also addressed the man who had invited him and said, "When you give a lunch or a dinner, don't invite your friends, or your brothers and relatives and wealthy neighbors. For surely they will also invite you in return and you will be repaid. When you give a feast, invite instead the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind. Fortunate are you then, because they can't repay you; you will be repaid at the Resurrection of the upright."

Commentary

We are told to be humble, and to listen (meaning to obey), and to give alms generously, because they atone for sin—basic human advice that is useful to all people. We, however, have drawn near to God in Jesus (not fire, mountains, darkness and storms as theophanies of old). We have come close to the community that believes in the Risen Lord, the Word made flesh. We are the honored and beloved children of God at the banquet table of the kingdom of justice, peace, and mercy for all.

Jesus' story tells us how we are to live: with humility, not putting ourselves first, and not making sure that we are in the places of honor or are acknowledged in public for what we do or who we are. We are to be among the least, to serve, eat with, and dwell among those at the bottom. And we are to invite and make friends with those no one remembers to invite to the feast of the Lord and to a life of abundance and justice. We should be pleased to do as much as we can for those who cannot repay us (that is the way we are with God!).

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications) & http://www.claretphilippines.org (Claretian Missionaries in the Philippines)

Surfers are flocking to try and ride Philippine waters.

Seeking an adrenaline rush? The Philippines is emerging as a much sought-after destination for adventure-seeking surfers. With
you get to fly to and enjoy excellent surfing destinations for free. At Php45 to 1 Mile, it's the lowest spend-to-Miles conversion in
everyday purchases, and you'll be flying free in no time.

Don't worry if you don't have enough Miles to fly– you can buy the Bonus Points you need to convert to Miles (1 Bonus Point =
Call (02) 85-800 to learn more about Mabuhay Miles Visa and FastFlights now. Sige ka, sayang ang Miles!

Fraport seeks annulment of WB verdict on Naia 3

FRANKFURT—FRANKFURT AIRPORT operator Fraport said it may apply for an annulment of a recent World Bank decision to dismiss its claim for more than $400 million in compensation over a Manila airport terminal project.

Fraport said on Friday only two out of three judges at the arbitration tribunal considered its involvement in the Manila project was not protected under a German-Philippine agreement and argued the court did not have jurisdiction for the case.

The World Bank announced its decision earlier this month.

"Fraport currently believes that essential documents presented at the proceedings, as well as argumentations and other aspects submitted by Fraport, were not or insufficiently taken into consideration by the court," the company said.

"Therefore, Fraport's executive board is examining all legal options, including application for annulment," Fraport added in a statement.

A successful plea for annulment could lead to the arbitration procedure being restarted, Fraport said, reopening the possibility of winning more compensation from the Philippine government.

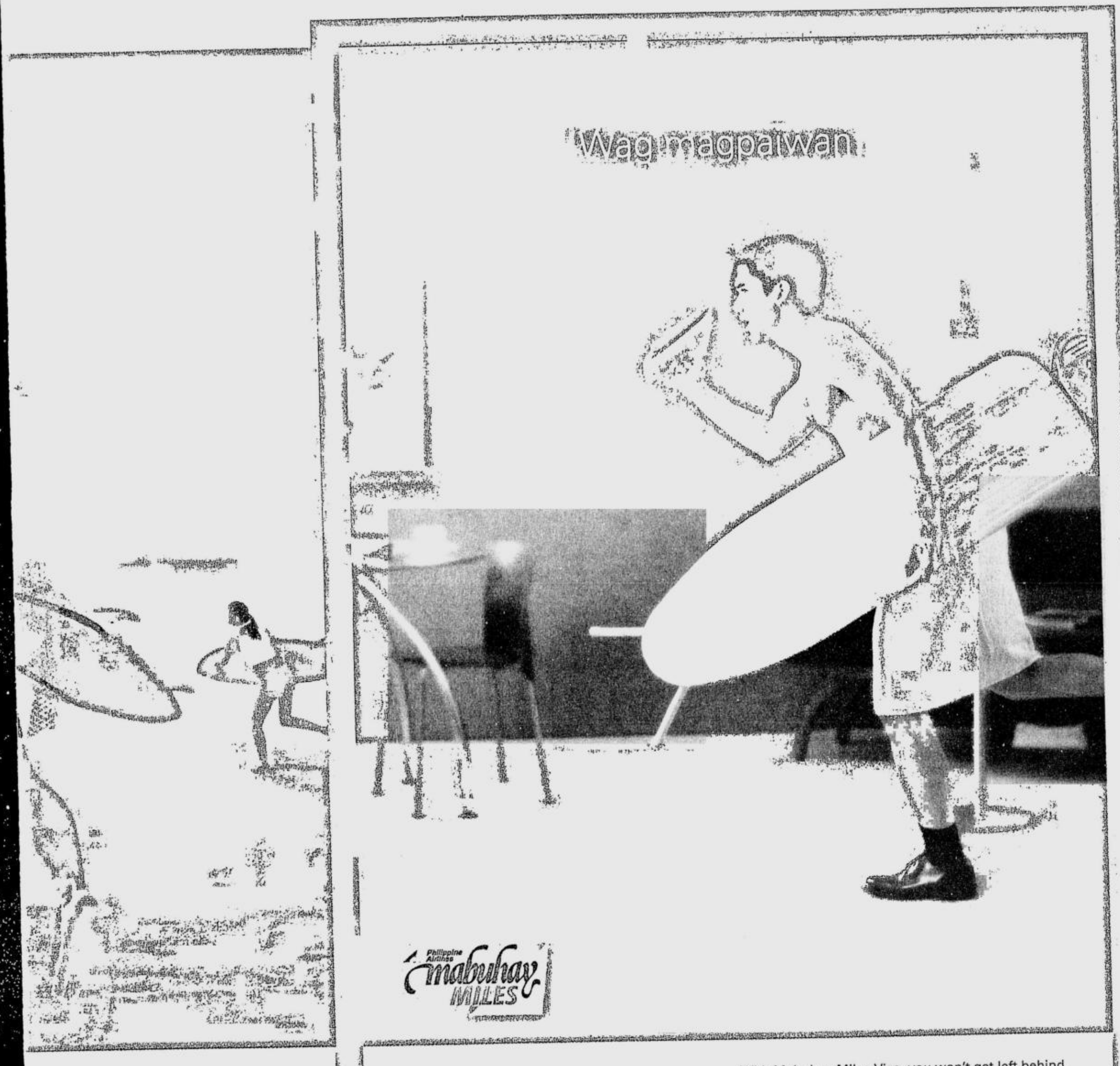
Fraport headed a consortium that built and was meant to operate the new terminal, which was designed to handle 13 million passengers a year and was originally set to open in late 2002.

The Philippine government seized the terminal in December 2004 in a contract dispute, triggering Fraport's compensation claim for $425 million plus interest via the World Bank.

Fraport received an initial $29 million payment from the Philippine government in September. Fraport wrote down all its investment in the project in 2001 and 2002.

Reuters

OUR LADY OF FATIMA UNIVERSITY
NOW OFFERS
NCLEX®/CGFNS
REVIEW CLASSES
For all BSN GRADUATES & REGISTERED NURSES
ENROLLMENT GOING ON
FOR SEPT. - OCT. 2007 REVIEW CLASSES
Admission Office: FATIMA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
120 MacArthur Highway, Valenzuela City
Tel. No. 291-66-44 or 293-2713 loc. 110
San Lorenzo Hall Bldg. Tel. No. 443-2993



uhay Miles Visa from HSBC,
country today. Use your card for
e)) with the new FastFlights feature.

Philippine Airlines Mabuhay MILES

With Mabuhay Miles Visa, you won't get left behind.
Earn Miles on everything you buy to fly for free.
And now with **FastFlights**, you can buy the
Bonus Points you need to fly sooner.

HSBC
4028 9288 8888 8888
VISA

SAYANG ANG MILES!

Call (02) 85-800
Click www.hsbc.com.ph
Visit your nearest HSBC branch

HSBC
The world's local bank

Terms and conditions apply

Issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007

ISSN 0116-2642

INQUIRER

Vol. 22 No. 266

OPINION

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/opinion

Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•Subscription Hotline 896-6000

China's caddy

BENJAMIN ABALOS MADE HIS REPUTATION AS A man of such modest means he supported himself by working as a caddy at the Wack-Wack Golf Club. He studied the law, rose to become a judge, and then, a mayor, establishing a political dynasty in the process. His appointment as chair of the Commission on Elections was supposed to be the crowning glory of his career. Instead, it has proven to be one of the greatest tragedies in our democratic history.

EDITORIAL

Under Abalos' watch, the Comelec has returned to the days of the Marcos era, when its chairmen couldn't count, and when it served as an institutionalized instrument for defrauding the people of their votes. And just like in the days of the dictatorship, the Comelec has thwarted and poisoned every institution with which it has come into contact.

Stubbornly refusing to bow to public pressure or damning legal findings, Abalos has left the Supreme Court (which said he should be charged and tried), in a humiliating position of being ignored by an Ombudsman eager to exonerate him. President Macapagal-Arroyo, who preaches electoral virtue while appearing to preside over electoral manipulation, speaks of the separation of powers that renders her powerless to do anything about him—even as partisans identified with the administration coalition were said to be behind the electoral fraud in Mindanao—which Abalos has claimed was no fraud at all.

The sad and bitter truth is, Abalos matters more to the powers-that-be than public opinion does. He knows it, and his political peers know it. That is why he could be assured he'd be safe as Comelec chair so long as elections (and a possible constitutional referendum) are on the horizon.

But now his time may, indeed, be up; his term expires next year, he won't matter in 2010, and so, even the opposition has been emboldened to go after his neck.

Abalos' critics now have him pinned down on an issue where his fellow commissioners can't help him, where the Comelec's rank-and-file can't save him, and where the evidence is so obvious, so glaring—and getting compounded so continuously—as to leave very little room for giving him the benefit of the doubt. The ZTE deal, which we pointed out a few days ago, will be funded by a Chinese government loan to our government, is proving to be a behest loan in the tradition of past crooked crony deals.

And who played a prominent role as a fixer for this deal? Why, Abalos himself, reports say. What was bruited about in the media—influence-peddling, junkets, bribes and sexcapades—became the subject of a privilege speech by opposition congressman Carlos Padilla. And from there, more revelations were made by an administration official, Finance Secretary Margarito Teves.

Teves confirmed that he was introduced to officials of the China-based ZTE Corp. during a meeting with Transportation and Communications Secretary Leandro Mendoza (the man who from the very start took credit for the deal) and Abalos. Teves has washed his hands of the matter—which leaves things even more firmly in the lap of Mendoza and Abalos who, it can now be basically said, served as the caddy for the Chinese trying to close the deal.

We wouldn't be surprised if, the floodgates having been breached, more officials will come forward to say Abalos did this and that to facilitate the deal. There is talk he even had a hand in expediting the granting of visas for his Chinese chums. In the end, whatever is said or revealed won't matter so long as Abalos maintains he's done nothing wrong—the "what are we in power for?" defense, which is no defense at all.

As Comelec chair, no reasonable justification can be found for his golfing around with administration officials; his sitting in—worse, acting as a fixer for—multimillion-dollar deals; and his accepting, along the way, junkets and—God knows—what else.

As it is, after studiously denying everything, Abalos has had to grudgingly admit to certain things, but only in dribbles. Each dribbled admission only raises more questions: how to explain, for example, the differences between his and Teves' recollection of the meeting with ZTE representatives?

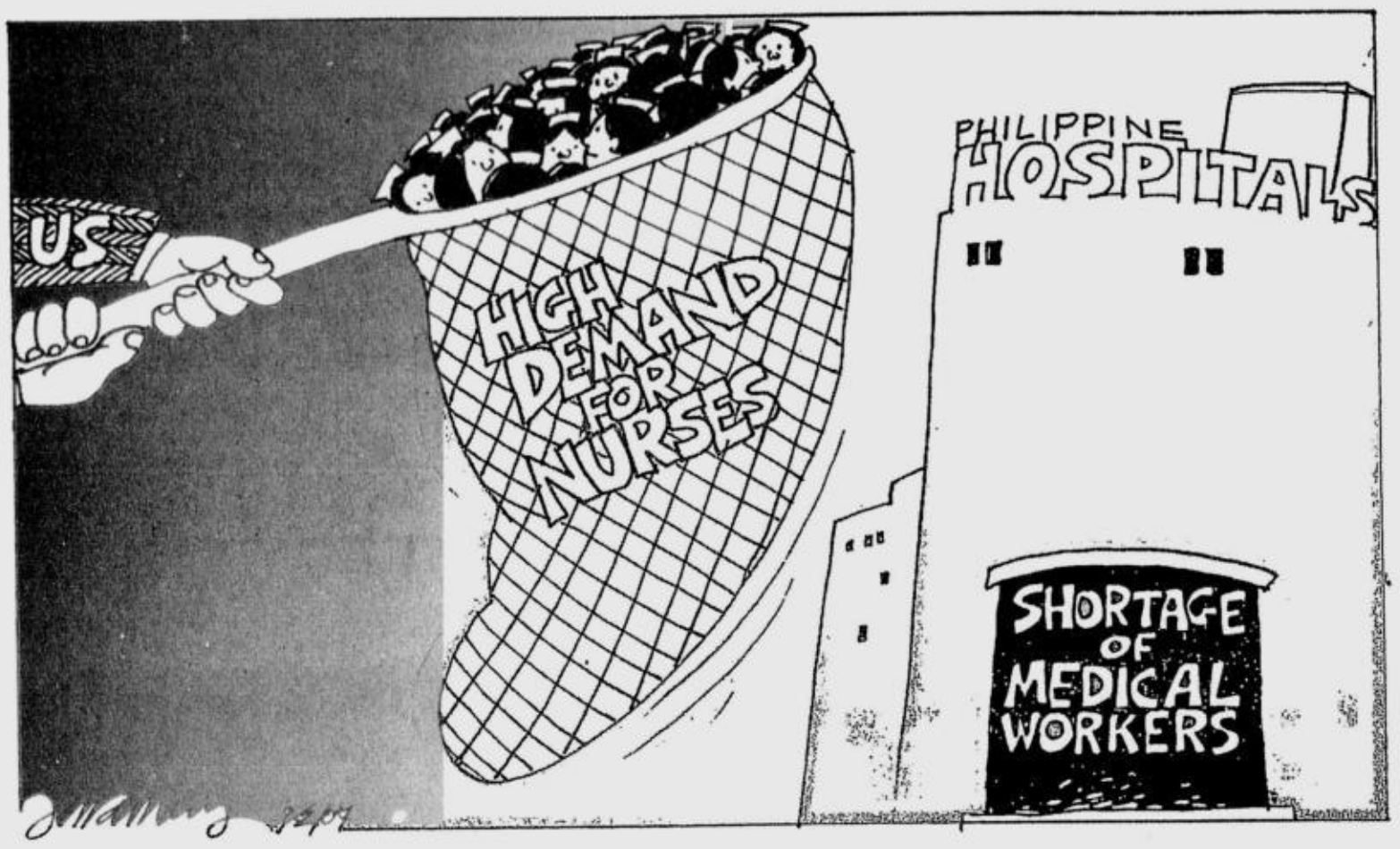
Most of all, here is an official who should have been impeached and indicted long ago; but even as we once more endorse his impeachment, we need to ask: What happens to those in the long list of Abalos-coddlers, from the Ombudsman on down? Our forecast is, no one in this government can risk Abalos facing the music, because once he's down, they're next.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation SANDY SIMON R. YAP

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TIROL
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • *Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342*

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.



'The letter that killeth'

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

IN 1963, CLARENCE EARL GIDEON WROTE in pencil from a pad of yellow ruled paper a letter to the Supreme Court of the United States complaining that he was in a Florida prison after being convicted of theft at a trial where he was denied the assistance of counsel *de oficio*. The Court acted swiftly on his complaint and ordered a new trial where, with a lawyer defending him this time, he was acquitted.

The case of Gideon v. Wainwright (372 US 355) was followed by other cases upholding the constitutional rights of suspected persons, among these Escobedo v. Illinois (378 US 478) and later the celebrated Miranda v. Arizona (384 US 436), written by Chief Justice Earl Warren, a politician who unexpectedly proved to be an estimable jurist. That case carefully specified and required full observance of the rights of a person under custodial investigation now famously known and respected as the Miranda rights.

The rights were first applied by our martial law Supreme Court in Morales v. Enrile (121 SCRA 538), and later in People v. Galit (135 SCRA 465), both written by Justice Hermogenes Concepcion Jr., the second with the approval of all the members *en banc* except one justice who did not take part. They are now embodied in Art. III, Sec. 12 of the present Constitution as guarantees of the Bill of Rights against forced extrajudicial confessions.

I mentioned the Gideon decision at the outset because it was an exceptional case that could not have happened in our country. The reason, as our Supreme Court would have put it, was that it was "insufficient in form and substance" and so deserved instant dismissal for disturbing the serious work of the high tribunal.

Gideon had written his letter in pencil only (not with a typewriter) and on ruled yellow pad paper (not the regulation stationery with the prescribed measurements). Moreover, it was presented in ungrammatical layman's language and not in the lawyer's idiom with its whereases and wherefores to give it the snobbery and formality of a legal pleading.

With its usual obeisance to the letter of the law, the Supreme Court of the Philippines would have trashed a similar untutored appeal and thereby relieved itself of work it should have weighed in the scales of justice that Justinian defined as "the constant and perpetual wish to render everyone his due." The high tribunal would have felt justified in adhering to the correct procedure as indispensable to the orderly administration of justice.

As a member of the Supreme Court reorganized after Edsa I, I also recognized the importance of procedural rules in the conduct and decision of cases before us. When Evelio Javier v. Commission on Elections (144 SCRA 194), was raffled to me in 1986, I reported to the *banc* that the petitioner was already dead, the private respondent had fled, and the members of the Commission on Elections then had already been removed. The petition should therefore be dismissed for having become moot and academic.

My colleagues tended to agree but not Chief Justice Claudio Teehankee. He said that, considering the outrageous circumstances of the case, perhaps the new Supreme Court should make a statement regarding its role under the new regime in denouncing and correcting the abuses of the past dictatorship. I immediately saw his point and so withdrew my original recommendation. Instead, I examined the case on the merits and started my *ponencia* as follows:

"The new Solicitor General has moved to dismiss this petition on the ground that, as a result of supervening events, it has become moot and academic. It is not as simple as that. Several lives have been lost in connection with this case, including that of the petitioner himself. The private respondent is now in hiding. The purity of suffrage has been defiled and the popular will scorned through a confabulation of those in authority. The Court cannot keep silent in the face of these terrible facts. The motion is denied."

The decision stated that "the citizen comes to us in quest of law but we must also give him justice. The two are not always the same." It was true that, according to the law, the case had already been technically terminated but we felt there were vital issues that still cried to be resolved. "Justice demands that we act on them, not only for the vindication of the outraged rights, though gone, but also for the guidance of and as a restraint upon the future."

And so, although the horrible facts of the Javier case could have been buried in the grave of "moot and academic," the Supreme Court exposed them in all their ugly detail—the ruthlessness of the Marcos despotism, the election Javier won but was rejected by the corrupt Commission on Elections, the murder of the fallen hero who was struck down in his youth because he dared speak against tyranny, and his resurrection and appreciation in the hearts of his compatriots.

We had redeemed justice and condemned oppression.

Recalling that case now, I am happy that the Supreme Court decided it not in blind obedience to the procedural rules but according to its substantial merits and in the higher interest of justice. It was written, I can say without false humility, not with "the letter that killeth but the spirit that vivifieth."

Exit

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT A PROUD LION who visited a tiny mouse. "Hey mouse, I'm getting married. What's the best advice you can give?" the lion asked.

"Just remember this my friend, I too was a lion before I got married," said the mouse.

* * *

In today's Gospel (Lk. 14, 7-14) Jesus reminds us to be humble so as to avoid embarrassment. "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." People who think of themselves as lions or lionesses would do well to listen and reflect on Jesus' words and warning today. History shows that those who exalt themselves, those who perpetuate themselves, those who hold on to money, power and pride, made a miserable, shameful and ugly exit from this life.

* * *

Politicians and government officials could and should learn a lesson or two about humility from "Among Ed" Panlilio, governor of Pampanga. In my Mass at the Carmelite convent in Angeles City last Aug. 27, I spotted him in the crowd. He arrived without fanfare, no advance party, no blinkers and sirens, no cordon sanitaire. He was just himself, and by himself, coming before his God to pray. He/she who knows how to kneel before God will not succumb to pride, and consequently, will not go astray.

* * *

After the Mass, I acknowledged the presence of "Among Ed," and asked him to come up, to the great delight of the congregation. The applause was long and loud. Not only that, it was sincere and spontaneous, not scripted, not rehashed. And when he talked, he talked short, he talked simple, he talked humble, and he talked love.

* * *

It was my first time to meet my classmate since he became governor, but I could feel that he has not allowed the pressures nor the perks of his office come to his head. The warm embrace, the solid handshake, the sincere smile, and the humble talk, all point to a person who sees himself not as a lord, but as a servant of the Lord, who has been given the mission to serve his people as priest and governor.

* * *

After his talk, I requested "Among Ed" to go before the tabernacle and asked the congregation to stretch their hands to him in prayer. As he knelt before the Lord, we all prayed for his safety, guidance and strength to carry out his mission. That one moment captured what a public servant should be—called by God, chosen by the people, to be a humble servant of all. What a contrast to many of our so-called public servants who are called by ambition, not chosen by the people, and who lord it over everybody.

* * *

The office has not changed the man a bit. Governor Ed still wears sandals and shirts, and his dangling reading glasses, and his warm and sincere smile. But the man has changed the office a lot. He has brought government closer—and made it more real—to the people. The secret? He is focused on the mission, not on the "commission," and he is not misty-eyed about his position and neither is he blinded by ambition.

* * *

To those who are lions now, or who think of themselves as lions now, make sure that you don't exit in disgrace like a mouse. Those who think and talk big, don't forget your exit. You too will exit, that's for sure!

What kind of exit will you have? Don't just focus on your entrance or your performance. Rather, prepare for your exit and disappearance. Yes, make sure you don't exit like a tiny mouse.

* * *

September is Mama Mary's birthday. May this humble woman remind us that humility is the road to God's heart and the sure formula to a peaceful, meaningful life. If your life is messy and heavy right now, maybe it's time to dispose of your pride, and humble yourself before others and before God. Fade away, and God will show you the way.

* * *

Lately, I've been thinking of my own exit from this life. I have no big plans for my retirement years. In fact, I don't even know if I'll have any at all. Maybe I'll go fast and soon, I really don't know. All I ask from God in humility is that I go in peace, and I leave behind peace. May I just be given a chance to do my mission for my God, to make reparations for my mistakes, and love while I live. I pray that in the end, I'd leave behind more love than hurt feelings in this life. This I humbly pray in Jesus name. Amen.

* * *

Hey, we all will go, and we all will leave this world, sometime. May we all leave this world without much regrets. May we all leave this world in peace. May we all leave this world a better place. If only we had more humility and less pride, if only we had less selfishness, and more love, then, we all would have a graceful exit in this life.

* * *

Starting Sept. 2, the Healing Eucharist, our Sunday TV Mass, will be broadcast at 6 a.m. instead of 7 a.m. This Healing Eucharist is broadcast worldwide on TFC.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to remember my exit, and to live a beautiful life, not just exist. Amen.

The rings of a happy marriage

WITH DUE RESPECT

Artemio V. Panganiban

SUBDUED IN ELEGANCE BUT RICH IN CATHOLIC liturgy, the wedding of Andre Mananzan and Liza Castillo at the Manila Cathedral last Aug. 18 was conceived on earth but blessed in heaven. The principal sponsors, Sen. Kiko Pangilinan, Ms Charo Santos-Concio, Dr. Eduardo R. Gatchalian, Dr. Angela Halili-Jao, Justice Jose A.R. Melo, Mrs. Veronica D. T. Hosseinzadeh, Jess C. Dilao, Dr. Beda C. Lacap, Dr. Emerlinda R. Roman and I, stood in rapt attention as the couple said their "I do's" before Msgr. Nestor C. Cerbo and Fr. Rex M. Mananzan.

Wedding ring. What struck me, however, were the tears that swelled the eyes of the couple as they exchanged wedding rings. The romantic strains of an old song reverberated in my mind... "A circle in a spiral, a wheel within a wheel, never ending or beginning, on an ever spinning reel..." How true, the wedding ring is round, with no beginning and no ending. It symbolizes eternity, not just "till death do us part." That is why there are timeless songs that moonstruck lovers swear by, like "Eternally" and "Endless Love."

Back on earth, however, a sage once said that there are really four rings that couples exchange when they wed. These are the wedding **ring**, **car**ing, **shar**ing and offer**ing**. Whenever lovers go to me for advice, I use these four rings as the simple, easy to remember guides to a happy marriage.

Losing self in caring. By caring, I refer to a person's surrender of self to the other. After marriage, the "I" dies and the "we and us" are born, to live as long as the marriage lasts. So, every decision—where to reside, what sports to enjoy, what movies to watch, which school the kids shall go to and how weekends are to be spent—becomes consensual.

They are not even voted upon. One spouse is expected to know the other so well that a consensus on all matters can be reasonably expected. Romantic love begins with the honeymoon and can last a lifetime when each of the partners take seriously their vow to love each other "in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer." This is possible when the happiness of a spouse no longer consists in self-satisfaction, but in caring, tending and serving the other. The self must die and give birth to the other.

Legal sharing. By sharing, I no longer talk about emotional ties. Instead, I summarize to the future spouses what happens to their properties at the moment they say, "I do." In the olden days, couples—unless they execute a written prenuptial agreement—automatically enter the conjugal partnership of gains. Here, each of the partners retained ownership of their respective assets, but the fruits or rentals of their separate properties and their income from their work or occupation become jointly owned.

But the Family Code, which took effect on Aug. 3, 1988, instituted the regime of absolute community of property. Under this system, all pieces of property owned by each of the future spouses prior to the marriage, or acquired thereafter, become community-owned. Unless—prior the wedding—the parties enter into a written "marriage settlement," the absolute community regime takes effect immediately, even if the titles to the assets are registered in the name of one spouse only. Accordingly, land, condominiums, cars, computers and jewelry of each of the spouses automatically become communal. Excluded are property for the personal or exclusive use of either spouse, like clothing, shoes and cosmetics.

The administration and enjoyment of community property belong to both spouses jointly. For example, each is entitled to the equal use of the family car or TV set. Neither spouse may sell, mortgage or give away any communal asset without the consent of the other.

Together, the couple shall fix the family home; manage the household and exercise parental authority over their minor children. However, either spouse may exercise any legitimate profession, occupation, or business without the consent of the other. The latter may object only on "valid, serious and moral grounds."

Offering to God. The sagacious Bishop Fulton J. Sheen wrote that it takes three to get married: the husband, the wife and God. When a couple ties the knot, the state intervenes to govern their personal and property relationship, but God blesses the union to make it last through the years. Even if the husband and the wife care for each other dearly and share with each other all their worldly goods, there will always be problems and tensions.

But as another song goes, "there is no problem so big God cannot solve it, there is no mountain so high God cannot move it." True, there are parents, sponsors, relatives, friends, and even the courts to turn to when seemingly insurmountable problems arise, but when all else fail, there is the final arbiter—the almighty, loving and merciful God.

In fact, I advise my *inaanaks* not to wait for a crisis, but to offer **daily** all their aspirations, hopes and frustrations to the Lord. Without fail, pray together upon rising in the morning and before sleeping at night. The evening worship is most essential. Couples should **hold hands every night and offer to the Lord**, as their mutual sacrifice, all the concerns, problems and quarrels of the day. If couples do this habitually, they will never fall asleep on a quarrel.

To sum up, marriage has four rings, the wedding **ring**, the sentimental **car**ing, the legal shar**ing** and the spiritual offer**ing**. All of them are essential to a happy and contented marriage.

* * *

Comments are welcome at chiefjusticepanganiban@hotmail.com

'Suroy suroy' through Cebu

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

SNAPSHOTS OF A ROAD TRIP THROUGH THE northern towns of Cebu:

Rows of schoolchildren line the highway wherever the "Suroy Suroy Sugbo (Wandering through Cebu) 2007" convoy passes through. At the head of the convoy is an SUV carrying Gov. Gwen Garcia, who leans out the front passenger seat, half her body precariously balanced, as she waves and even shakes hands with her young constituents, many of them waving pennants and shouting "Gwen! Gwen!" At the multi-purpose hall in Compostela, the crowd erupts into cheers when she enters, and the din sounds like the uproar usually reserved for show-biz denizens.

In Consolacion, the first stop in the "suroy suroy," just a few minutes from Mandaue, the caravan of tour buses, coasters, vans and SUVs stops for breakfast, which incredibly includes oysters and lechon (there will be a lechon in every meal, we soon find out). Governor Gwen, the mayor and other officials officiate in a groundbreaking ceremony for the new town hall. In Compostela, there is a mini-exhibit of the town's main products, including home accessories, candies and white cheese. But the high point of this stop is when the emcee calls on Mayor Ritchie Wagas to render a song, and then is joined by the governor for a duet of the Cebuano "national anthem," the song "Matud Nila."

Later, the governor tells us that "Matud Nila," a sad love song of a love betrayed, was her "theme song" in her first run for governor. She was a decided underdog then and barely squeezed out a victory, and her singing "Matud Nila," she said, was her way of expressing her feelings, as well as reaching out to the voters' hearts.

On this day, Gwen sings "Matud Nila" on a different note. Having garnered the biggest margin of victory among all the governors in the country, her sortie through the northern towns looks more like a victory parade. But she works up the crowds like a campaigner, and the "suroy suroy" gives us a glimpse of how hectic and tiring a political campaign can get.

When our van driver temporarily loses his way, he encounters a farmer walking down a lonely road, and asks if a convoy had just passed by. "Ah, Gwen was just here, just drive on ahead," the man says. When you're on first-name basis with your constituents, I guess it's safe to say you have won their hearts as well as their votes.

* * *

THE "SUROY Suroy Sugbo" was conceived last year as a way of "introducing" the towns of Cebu province to city-based Cebuanos, balikbayans, as well as tourists and the media. There are three "Suroy suroy" conducted each year, one to the southern towns, the other to the northern towns, and a third to the more remote Camotes Islands.

The "Northern Escapade" this year has gathered the biggest group yet, some 150 in all. Arrangements are made with travel agents and the governor's office, with rates depending on the choice of accommodations, though they do cover transportation and all meals.

Ah yes, the meals. There is food in every town where the convoy stops. And despite our resolve to stick to our diets, there is no resisting the *lechon*, the sea food, the rice-based sweets like *suman*, *puto* and even the *puso*, the Cebuano way of serving rice in a neat banana-leaf packet. In Danao, Maria Clara-clad young women hand out plastic packs of *bibingka* and *puto* done up in gold ribbon. In Carmen, we are served lunch in an "auditorium" that faces the Camotes Sea. While we eat, schoolchildren and teachers perform native dances, and not even a sudden rain shower deters their show.

The caravan through Cebu's northern towns is meant not just to showcase the tourist spots in this part of the province. It is also meant to publicize each town's "culture," arts, and native products. For this purpose business people, among them representatives of the burgeoning furniture industry, have come along to spot possible suppliers from among the small local businesses.

That means we have also been able to do some shopping. In Medellin, we go *gaga* over the wooden and shell fashion accessories, especially after we find out they cost from P10-P25 per piece. In Bantayan town on Bantayan Island, we swarm all over the market to snag *danggit* and other dried sea food. In San Remigio, we practically clean out the stall selling "*hapao*" handicraft, household items made from wood and a sturdy vine.

And we still have items on our list to buy at the airport!

* * *

OUR final stop on the first day of the "Suroy suroy" is Daan Bantayan, or old Bantayan town, the northernmost town of Cebu.

We drive into a field and are taken up with a throbbing beat of drums, xylophones and trumpets. When we alight from our vehicles, we find ourselves amid a wild gathering of "tribes," each dressed in bright, gaudy costumes. This is the "Haladaya Festival," meant to commemorate the heroism of a local datu, named Datu Daya, in repelling foreign invaders. The festival features the various elementary schools and high schools in town in a street-dancing competition.

We arrive just as the final competitors put on their show, but fortunately, after the winners are announced, the top three in both the elementary and high school categories re-stage their performances. Every performance blows us away, from the dazzling costumes and clever backdrops, the kinetic choreography, the throbbing beat of the drum-and-bugle corps, and the sheer energy of these children running around and gyrating in the increasingly muddy field.

The evening's events are capped by a grand fireworks show, and we marvel at the organizational skill of Daan Bantayan's young (just 24 years old) mayor, Sun Jay Shimura. But Governor Gwen gives credit, as well, to Shimura's mother, the vice mayor Maria Luisa Loot, who, as the former mayor, had first organized this mammoth extravaganza.

Russia's future and the West

WORLD VIEW

Joschka Fischer

RUSSIA IS AGAIN SEEKING A ROLE AS A GLOBAL power and is therefore flexing its muscles. Signs of change in Russian foreign policy have been mounting ever since President Vladimir Putin delivered a confrontational speech in Munich last February.

Since then Russia planted its flag on the seabed below the North Pole to demonstrate its claims to the Arctic and its natural resources; announced its intention to build its own missile defense system and issued repeated threats against Europe because of the planned deployment of a small American defense system; exploded a "stray" missile or bomb in Georgia as a warning signal to the government in Tbilisi and its Western friends; buzzed America's military base on the Pacific island of Guam with surveillance aircraft; blocked a decision on the final status of Kosovo in the UN Security Council; and launched a hacker attack against computer systems in Estonia. In addition, each winter, there is a repeated threat of "problems" with oil and gas deliveries to Europe.

High oil and gas prices, America's self-inflicted global weakening due to its misadventure in Iraq, and the rise of China and India obviously have prompted Moscow to change its foreign policy. Yet none of this amounts to a fundamental change in Russia's strategy, because Russia continues to adhere to its fundamental decision, made in the early 1990s, to open itself to the West. Still, the style of Russian politics has changed from cooperation to confrontation. And, as history has shown, a change of style in foreign policy may quickly lead to a change in strategy.

Currently, Russia is undergoing a restoration. Such periods always follow revolutions and times of far-reaching change. The power of the center is being restored, following its partial disintegration after the end of the Soviet Union. But, ever since the 16th century, the center has played the main role in shaping Russian history, and now looks to be no different.

The restoration of central authority has been going on for some time. Indeed, today the center almost completely dictates Russian internal politics and economics, though not within a totalitarian or autocratic framework, but in a democratic and market-based fashion.

Democracy has, of course, degenerated into what is sometimes called "managed democracy." Theoretically, there remain different parties, elections, a pluralistic society, an independent judiciary and a market economy. But in practice, the entire system is subject to control by the president. The people will still be allowed to vote for the president, but the real decision about who he will be will have been made beforehand.

Even if its annual GDP approximates that of Italy, Russia still is a global power and too important to isolate, or even forget about. It retains enormous strategic weight. Russia's future will be determined by whether it is successful in comprehensively modernizing its economy, which today is largely based on exports of oil, gas and other natural resources.

If Russia remains dependent on a natural-resource economy, it will again become a colossus with feet of clay. Indeed, it will not be nearly as powerful as the old Soviet Union. Only if Russia succeeds in productively reinvesting the gains from its petro-economy will it achieve sustainable modernization.

But this also will require successful political modernization, which means nothing less than constraining the power of the center. The most important aspect of this will be to secure real judicial independence. Moreover, Russia needs a system of checks and balances compatible with its own culture and tradition, because this, together with the rule of law, is an indispensable precondition of a functioning democracy. Finally, Russia will need to build a functioning party system, capable of sustaining Russian democracy. Considering the country's vast size, a two-party system seems to be the most appropriate.

All these transformations will take time, and they will not come easily or be free of conflict. So, for the foreseeable future, the West will have to deal with a Russia that yearns for its lost imperial power and shapes its foreign policy to this end.

In international politics, one side's strength often reflects the other side's weakness. The weakness of the United States and Europe today is an open invitation for Russia to return to its old imperial politics. This development is anything but safe, particularly for Europe.

Europe thus has a strategic interest in Russia's successful modernization and in good bilateral relations. Above all, the European Union and its member states cannot allow Russia to recapture its imperial spheres of influence without severely damaging its own central interests. It is for this reason that securing the independence of Ukraine is so important, as is assuring Turkey's European orientation.

So, while Russia's modernization and democratization are in Europe's interest, its return to an imperial foreign policy and barely veiled authoritarianism at home is not. Most Russians look westward. In the next few years, Russia will offer Europe a great opportunity for closer cooperation, but it will also pose a risk of increased intrusion in European affairs.

The right responses to these opportunities and risks require a united, strong Europe. Indeed, a strong and united Europe will also make an important contribution to Russia's sustainable modernization. A weak and divided Europe will tempt Russia to pursue dangerous paths into the future.

Project Syndicate/Institute for Human Sciences

Joschka Fischer, a leader in the Green Party for nearly 20 years, was Germany's foreign minister and vice chancellor from 1998 to 2005.

Blood brothers

A BOY DIED LAST MONDAY.

His name was Cris Anthony Mendez. His friends from the National College of Public Administration and Governance (NCPAG) called him CA, and his pictures show a boy who made faces at the camera while surrounded by friends. This year was his last in the University of the Philippines Diliman, the year he sat in the student council. He was the eldest of his family, and his mother in Tiaong, Quezon believed he would pull them out of poverty. He was 20 years old.

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

Cris was tall, and thin, and kind, and when he was killed last Monday, his killers ran away and tried to forget who he was.

I write this at dawn, six days since he was carried into the Veteran's Memorial Medical Center, battered and bruised purple. The doctors say Cris was dead on arrival. According to the statement of security guard Jonathan Garduce, it was Dr. Francisco Cruz, a VMMC physician, who brought Cris in from a white Toyota Innova. And after leaving information, Cruz and his companions rushed out. Reports say Dr. Cruz has gone on emergency leave.

According to classmates in UP Law, his son Miko is a member of Sigma Rho, a UP Diliman law-based fraternity. Chief Insp. Lino Banaag of the QCPD-CIDU told this paper that the doctor has gone into hiding.

Cris Mendez left testimony with his friends that he was joining Sigma Rho, and that Ariel Paolo Ante, chair of the NCPAG student council, was his recruiter and initiation master. Ante has disappeared. In a report from this paper, Ante asked Cris' friends to wish him good luck "for the initiation" which was to take place over the weekend.

Right now, the men who watched Cris die can still sleep in their beds at night. They remember how his eyes looked those last few minutes. They know if he cried, if he begged; if he said please, stop. They held his broken body on the way to the hospital. They saw him and touched him and heard him scream, and today some of them still go to class and study human rights law.

There are many things I do not understand. I understand that these fraternity men are scholars, law students, people educated by the state in the hope that someday they will give back in service to the nation. I do not understand what sort of twisted logic can make intelligent men believe that friendship and loyalty need to be proven through a brutal initiation.

"Such distorted values," as UP Diliman Chancellor Sergio Cao says, "have no place in an institution of higher learning like UP." Hazing is illegal, and has been for more than a decade. The administration is currently building its case against Sigma Rho, and its officers have been suspended.

Last Friday, Cris' friends from NCPAG lit candles and gathered on the steps of the Palma Hall building. There were around 200 of them, less than the numbers of those who protested tuition fee increases, thousands less than those who turned up for last Christmas' lantern parade. The Office of the Vice President for Public Affairs has received more calls over the streaking of two women during the Oblation Run than he has regarding Cris' death. This is UP. We say we stand for the people. We condemn the violence of the war against terror. We rage against those who mangle the Constitution. We fill the streets with our numbers for the disappeared and the distressed. Yet we continue to work and study beside barbarians who whip unresisting boys into submission. Today one boy is dead. One life is gone. Many others have been lost before, but were forgotten. Why are we silent now?

I have been told that the men of Sigma Rho are men of character. Maybe they tell themselves it was an accident, that they did not intend for Cris to die, and perhaps that is true. Maybe they can convince themselves that they are good people. Last month they built houses for charity, played with children, sweated for the less fortunate under the heat of an afternoon sun. Maybe they have girlfriends who sigh over Valentine's presents, and mothers who hug them in the morning. And maybe, like so many of their illustrious brothers, they will become senators and opinion makers and judges of men.

Sigma Rho has closed ranks. There is a conspiracy of silence, even among the alumni. In spite of evidence linking members to Cris and his death, members deny they know him, and that any sort of hazing has taken place.

Character is not the ability to slam a paddle on bare legs, or the strength to endure it. Character is not "standing by a Sigma Rhoan, right or wrong," as they claimed they do in their freshman orientation in UP Law. Character is the willingness to stand alone, for what is right, for the boy named Cris who once laughed with his friends, for the truth that may stop the next boy from being beaten to death at the hands of such gentlemen of character. Every man who bears the name of this fraternity, or one who behaves in a manner similar to this, is a man with blood on his hands.

This is how they will be judged. Not by what they have achieved, or how great they become. They will be judged by this moment, when they have chosen to run, to hide, to remain silent.

In Tiaong, Quezon, Cris' mother sits beside his coffin. She is quiet, and her eyes are flat and blank. And then she shakes her head, violently, and moans, and her wail cuts through the thick air of the quiet funeral parlor. There is anger here, and a stunned sort of disbelief. Why, she asks, why her son, her Cris who was such a good boy? Why did they have to kill him, they didn't have to, and even if they had beaten him up, she would have made him well, she would have nursed him, she would have gotten a doctor even if she was poor. And while she trembles, she tells his killers that someday, they will have children too.

How can men, who gleefully smash their paddles behind thighs and arms, be called brothers by their victims? Don't they know that had they died the way Cris died, none of their loyal fraternity brods would call them brother?

* * *

For comments, just text: PM REBEL name, age, location, message then send to 2948 for Globe/Sun and 3940 for Smart. E-mail at rebel.inquirer@gmail.com

THEY SAID

'Crisis ordinaire'

"This administration has faced all sorts of crisis and we have prevailed. Any other new crisis is just like another day at the office."

—Presidential Management Staff head Cerge Remonde

The INQUIRER is a member of the

PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE

The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Strengthening the Asian voice

ASIA ACCOUNTS FOR 60 PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION, BUT ABOUT TWO-THIRDS of the global information flow comes from the developed countries. The imbalance has reduced the Asian voice to what an editor at China Daily calls "barely a whisper."

Although Asia has become the engine for global economic development, its media continue to be overshadowed by Western media.

By their sheer size, American media companies dominate the global news and information industry, allowing them to frame many issues from their perspective.

To help address the imbalance, People's Daily, China's leading newspaper, hosted the First Asean plus 3 (10 + 3) Media Cooperation Forum on Aug. 21. Editors from the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), and from China, Japan and South Korea attended the forum in Tianjin, a city two hours' drive from Beijing.

The forum focused on the role of media from East Asian countries in promoting 10 + 3 cooperation, strengthening Asian voice in the international arena, and building a win-win information platform for China and foreign media for the Beijing Olympics.

It was Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao who proposed the holding of the forum at the 10th 10 + 3 Summit in Cebu in January.

To promote cooperation, editors suggested, among others, that exchanges and a network for information sharing be set up.

'Develop our own forms of journalism'

By Qu Yingpu

I ONCE HEARD A STORY I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE: In the town of Biratnagar in the Nepali terai—where the north Indian plains meet the foothills of the Himalayas—students were debating the impact of satellite TV on their lives.

One boy said: "I don't like Star movies and Channel V. The life shown on these channels is far removed from the reality of our own country. Because of these channels, Nepali girls have started wearing short skirts."

"I think films are much more dangerous to society," replied a girl. "Nepali boys are very quick at imitating. That's why we see boys wearing earrings, bandanas on their heads and teasing girls."

It may not be a pleasant story, but is probably a fair reflection of the current state of Asian media.

Asia is the fastest-growing economic region in the world with a large population and abundant natural resources.

In 2005, the economies in this region continued to grow at a steady pace of 8.2 percent and continued at about the same rate in the first half of 2006, according to statistics from the World Bank. Since the early 1990s, Asia's vitality has been boosted by regional cooperation, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

However, the development of Asian media does not reflect its economic dynamism. Asian countries account for 60 percent of the world's population, but almost two-thirds of the information flow comes from the developed world, reducing the Asian voice to barely a whisper.

Developments in the media industry have been led largely by Western countries, whose international presence has overshadowed much of the Asia-Pacific media.

Asia, as the fastest-growing economy in the world and the engine for global economic development, deserves better media coverage by news organizations in the region and around the globe.

What implications will the global media integration have on Asia media?

Global media integration means the concentration of the press in fewer and fewer corporate hands and in a few countries. New communication technologies have made it possible for media giants to enter the lucrative Asian market to establish powerful distribution and production networks.

It will have serious and progressive repercussions not only on Asian media but also on cultural, social and economic development.

In many cases, media institutions survive on advertising revenues, which can lead to the media outlet being influenced by various corporate interests. At the same time, ownership interests may affect what is and is not covered. Stories can end up being biased or omitted so as not to offend advertisers or owners. When global media companies enter Asian countries, the attempt of building a new image of Asia will be in the control of Western media powerhouses. The voice of weak countries will never be heard.

It is about time for the Asian media to act together to prevent this from happening—like Singapore's media regulations that disallow a single foreign entity from holding more than 3 per cent of a Singaporean media company. Otherwise, Asian media will be gobbled up like a McDonald's Big Breakfast by Western interests.

How can we make the Asian media voice louder?

Asia is a politically and culturally diverse continent, where we can find reforming and developing communist countries next door to some of the most successful capitalist countries in the world. And no one or two religions dominate the continent.

It is hard to assume Asian media's success by imitating their Western counterparts. I propose four measures, which may lead Asian media to become a potent medium in expressing the voice of the Asian community in the global exchange of views.

1. Don't always blame Asia's media climate

I always hear complaints about China's media environment: Reporters are constrained from expressing what they truly believe, the government lords it over the industry with policy directives and draconian regulations, and the dissemination of foreign information on the Chinese mainland is severely circumscribed.

Citing these facts, however, may obscure the more important story about changes in China's media environment. Through a combination of government initiative and unintended consequences of economic reform, the Chinese media environment is being transformed into one in which state-employed media managers have more autonomy in making decisions, the images and ideas to which Chinese are exposed are increasing and a greater role for private capital is being carved out.

The new media environment is one of lively radio talk shows, less-inhibited press coverage, live television broadcasts, greater imports of foreign media products and the growth of advertising.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES/PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

Like in China, the improvement of Asian media climate is not likely to happen overnight. Yet, the movement has been toward greater openness, and that seems likely to continue. A reduction in government subsidies to state-owned media enterprises and the emergence of a commercial mindset among media managers are undercutting government control and contributing to the development of a quasi-independent media.

As Asia goes ahead with its economic reforms and becomes further integrated into the international market economy, and as new technologies, such as mobile phones and the Internet are used more widely, media environment changes will continue.

2. Develop Asia's own forms of journalism

A study examined the claim that Asian journalism is essentially different from Western journalism through a comparative analysis of Channel News Asia (CNA), an international news channel operated by a Singaporean company, and CNN. It analyzed the news bulletins aired by the two stations in their special news programs on Asia during four weeks over a six-month period in 2000.

The results show that despite its objective of presenting an Asian perspective in its newscasts, CNA is not significantly different from CNN. Both stations tended to focus on crises and conflicts in their news coverage of Asia. The findings indicate that being Asian does not automatically enable Asian journalists and media to present news about Asia in a way significantly different from their Western counterparts.

Western media powerhouses have advanced technology and concepts, which have long been accepted as the ideal with hardly any doubt throughout Asia. Developing Asia's own form of journalism is the way out of the dilemma of being beaten by Western media.

There are three steps we could follow:

- First, by accepting that there are truths beyond those put out by AP or Reuters.
- Second, by fine-tuning skills to communicate those truths effectively.
- Third, by identifying and exploiting areas of interest for its receivers.

3. Utilize digital media

Asian media have undergone dramatic development and change in the past decade. The growth of the Internet and other digital media has opened up exciting opportunities for Asian mainstream media. The Internet will give Asian media the leverage over Western interests. It enables Asian media to expand their coverage beyond Asia. For example: The China Daily website was China's first news website at the time of its launch in December 1995 and it remains one of the country's top news portals today.

By providing easy access to a wide range of news, business information, photos and syndicated cartoons, chinadaily.com.cn has grown into an influential source of information for people at home and abroad.

Published in English and Chinese and attracting six million page views a day, chinadaily.com.cn serves as an online bridge between China and the rest of the world. The Internet is like the fine art of judo. You may be weaker than your opponent, but by developing and adopting the right skills at the right time, you can overthrow a Goliath.

4. Form alliances

This global trend would also encourage media in Asia to forge closer cooperation among them, like with the Asia News Network (ANN). Eight years ago, the birth of ANN marked the validity and strength of Asian media acting together. The Asia News Network is a network of national daily newspapers published in Asian cities, organized to provide avenues for cooperation and to optimize coverage of major news events in the region.

Eight years have passed, the network's membership has grown from 7 to 16 newspapers, representing 12 nations that cover about half of the world's population.

The best way for Asian media to cope with the seductive tug of global media integration is for it to integrate, and to report Asia, if not always objectively, then with a subjectivity quite different from that of Western media practitioners. This trend will continue to happen, and will help strengthen Asian media positioning in the global market.

(Qu Yingpu is the deputy editor in chief of China Daily, the only national English-language newspaper in China. He graduated from Shanghai International Studies University in 1987 with two degrees—in English language and literature, and in international journalism. He obtained his MPA from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, in 2005.)

West has dominated world culture for centuries

By Li Changchun

FOR OVER 500 YEARS, world culture has been dominated by the West. Now, we have a very good momentum in Asean + 3 media cooperation. This will help us change that and develop ourselves. Many say the 21st century is Asia's century. To say that means that we Asian countries want to dominate the world.

But what we want is to develop a harmonious world. And we hope that all kinds of civilizations can develop hand in hand with mutual enrichment. Twenty-first century Asia will play a greater role and it is necessary for Asia to have a louder voice in the international arena.

China needs a peaceful environment to develop its trade with the region.

China will continue to pursue neighborliness and the road to development. That is why it has taken an active role in promoting cooperation among 10 + 3 countries.

This year, Asean celebrated its 40th year. It has promoted economic growth and integration process. We commend this development because it contributes to peace in the region.

The Chinese government sees ties with Asean as very important.

Ten years ago, we started cooperation among 10 + 3 states. Over the past 10 years, we witnessed a very good momentum, and we see sustained growth in the future. The group has become a main channel for cooperation in Asia and enhanced mutual understanding among states.

It plays an important role in economic growth and social development. It has contributed to regional peace and development, and boosted the standing of the region and influence in the international arena.

As 10 + 3 cooperation grows, it will expand to cultural, social and people-to-people ties. Media play an important role in culture—in helping people understand each other and in promoting friendship.

So we highly appreciate 10 + 3 media cooperation and offer our support. Such cooperation should continue in various forms. In what way? Media organizations can consult each other.

We will continue to support cooperation between People's Daily and all of you. So I suggest that to build on the success of the forum, People's Daily should communicate with you and discuss ways to move forward. We would like to provide the service, to be a servant.

If you think People's Daily is qualified to be a servant, it will continue its role in promoting cooperation. I and Mr. Liu Yunshan will back it.

Under the framework of 10 + 3 cooperation, media cooperation will take off soon. Come up with suggestions to facilitate cooperation in other areas.

(Li Changchun is a member of the standing committee of the Political Bureau of China's ruling party. The article is based on the notes taken by Juan V. Sarmiento Jr. of the English translation of Li's talk with editors from 10 + 3 countries and officials of People's Daily at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Aug. 23.)

Asians know more about their issues

By Nguon Serath

THE GLOBAL DOMINATION BY the US media has an effect on the coverage of Asia. Mother Jones magazine reports that by the end of 2006, there were eight giant media companies in the United States, most of which are also the globe's elite media firms from which most of us get news and information. Those companies are:

- Disney (market value: $72.8 billion)
- AOL-Time Warner ($90.7 billion)
- Viacom ($53.9 billion)
- General Electric (owner of NBC, $390.6 billion)
- News Corp. ($56.7 billion)
- Yahoo! ($40.1 billion)
- Microsoft ($306.8 billion)
- Google ($154.6 billion)

Because of this domination in the media world, we rarely get information on Asia reported by the Asian media. The Asian voices—the voice for peace, the voice for development, the voice for cooperation, the voice for mutual respect, and the voice for equal rights in the international arena, can not be heard.

That is due to the less active performance of the Asian media. As a result, the media can not fully serve the interest of Asian people and a true Asia is not reflected in the media.

Only Asian people know clearly about Asian issues, identity and culture. By getting information from foreign media, we are sometimes misinformed about events in Asia or we do not have information on other Asian countries. On this point, I doubt if we, the media practitioners, have played our role in serving the interest of the public.

Considering the importance of this meeting, we should set up a network of 10 + 3 media network, which can serve as a bridge for cooperation among Asian journalists.

We will not be able to play our role as the catalyst for boosting cooperation if we, the media practitioners, can not have good cooperation.

Through this cooperation, we can understand the media situation, including working conditions and press freedom in various countries. The network shall also bring together all the Asian media outlets under an umbrella.

A member can use the information of the network free of charge. Therefore, this network will serve as a tool for sharing information among the Asian media outlets.

This mission is not easy and it requires our joint effort to make this dream become a reality. When we have easy access to Asian information reported by Asian media, I do hope that there will be a change for the better.

(Nguon Serath is the political editor of Rasmei Kampuchea newspaper. This article is part of the paper he delivered at the First 10 + 3 Media Cooperation Forum.)

Princess Di: 'Simply, best mother in the world'

From page A1

beit in a far lower key than the emotional tidal wave that swept over Britain following her death 10 years ago.

In his eulogy, Harry said it was important "that we remember our mother as she would wish to be remembered, as she was: Fun-loving, generous, down to earth and entirely genuine."

The press also had high praise for Diana's son Prince Harry as it reflected on his maturity. They lauded the young army officer's touching speech about her, a decade on from being the heartbroken 12-year-old boy burdened with the awful task of walking behind his mother's coffin as the world watched on.

Let it end here

"Let it end here," said the Bishop of London Richard Chartres, in a plea for the wrangling over her tragic death in a Paris car crash at the age of 36 to finally come to a halt.

"Let this service mark the point at which we let her rest in peace and dwell on her memory with thanksgiving and compassion," Chartres said in Friday's service in words that seemed to strike a chord.

The service at noon for the 10th anniversary of the death of the Princess of Wales was simple and poignant, a dignified celebration of a life rather than a somber mourning of a death.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown was among the nearly 500 invited guests, as were his two predecessors, John Major and Tony Blair. Elton John, Richard Attenborough and Richard Branson came. So did a dozen of the princess godchildren; flower girls and pageboys from her wedding, in 1981, to Prince Charles; representatives of various charities she supported; and more than 30 members of the royal family.

Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, Charles' second wife, was glaringly absent. Reportedly afraid of being heckled—she was, after all, the woman to whom Diana referred when she declared there were "three of us in this marriage"—Camilla decided to stay away, saying she did not want to distract from the proper purpose of the occasion and leaving Charles to lead the way alongside his sons, Prince Harry and Prince William.

Queen Elizabeth II followed, with her husband, Prince Philip.

Dodi Fayed's father

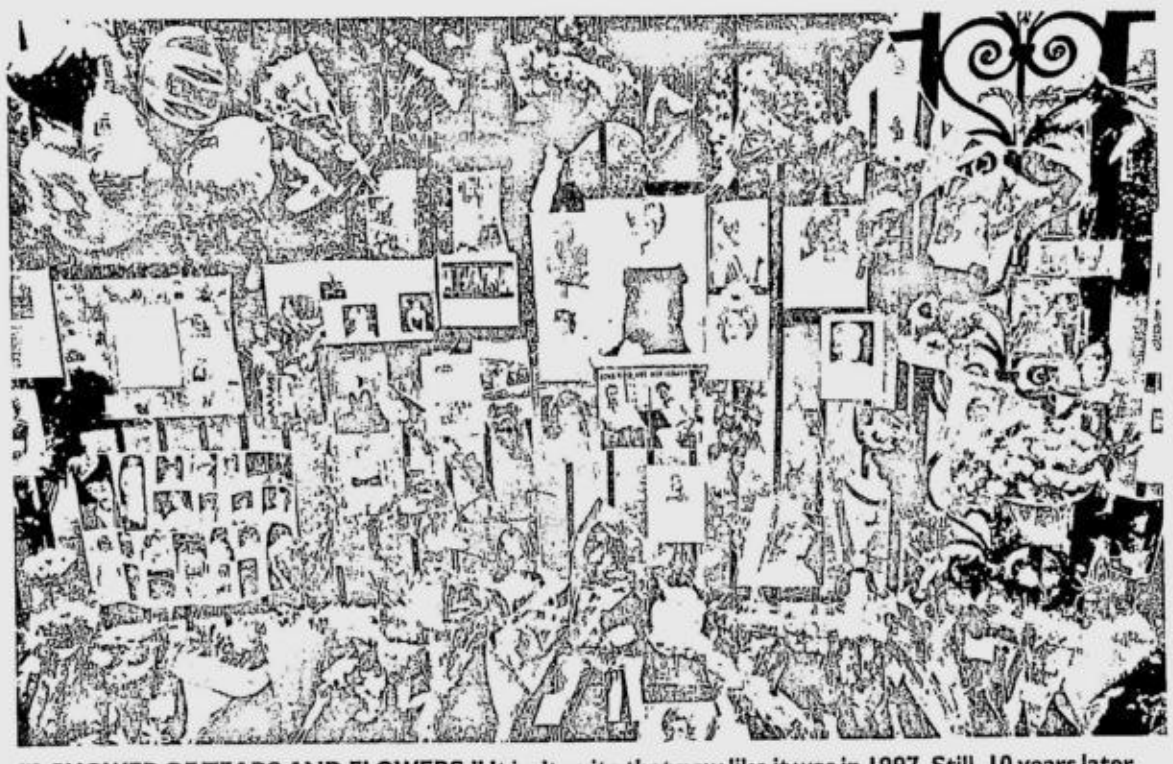
Also conspicuous by his absence was Mohamed Al Fayed, father of the princess's boyfriend, Dodi Fayed, who also died in the crash. He was reportedly not invited.

The Egyptian tycoon hosted a two-minute silence at his upmarket London department store Harrods, attended by about 100 people.

Last year, a report from Lord John Stevens, former head of London's Metropolitan Police, ruled out any conspiracy and said that the crash, which also killed the car's driver Henri Paul, was a "tragic accident."

The crowds that gathered between Buckingham Palace and the Guards' Chapel, where the service took place, were warm, encouraging and royalist. Their support of the queen—they applauded her as she went into the chapel, and again when she came out—was a far cry from the restive, antimonarchist mood of a decade ago, when she was criticized for not being emoti onal enough.

Hundreds of people gathered outside the chapel to listen to the service through loudspeakers. Harry's address earned applause and reduced many of them to tears.



"A SHOWER OF TEARS AND FLOWERS:" It isn't quite that now like it was in 1997. Still, 10 years later, the world has not quite forgotten. The bouquets, poems and portraits are still there in memoriam at the gates of Kensington Palace, where the Princess of Wales once lived. AFP

William read a Bible passage, while Diana's sister Lady Sarah McCorquodale quoted from a poem. Earl Spencer, Diana's brother, who gave such a rousing, combative speech at her funeral, was silent this time around.

London did not come to a standstill, as it did in that odd, fevered time after Diana's death on Aug. 31, 1997, in a car accident in Paris, at the age of 36. But around the city, and across Britain, people paused once more to remember the princess.

Media sentiments

Newspapers generally agreed with the bishop's sentiments, an attempt to draw a line under the episode in 1997 which sent a thunderbolt through British society, not to mention the royal family.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that the service ... will have healed decade-old wounds," said The Daily Telegraph in its editorial.

The Daily Mail said: "It is time to let go," while The Sun said "a loud 'Amen'" to Chartres' plea.

The Times, which examined the influence of Diana's death on the monarchy, said: "With hindsight, it does now seem extraordinary how the royal family misread the mood."

However, it added: "But what must also be recognized is the monarchy's resilience and determination to make the changes, albeit slowly and thoughtfully, needed to redefine its role and its relationship with the nation."

Columnist Polly Toynbee said on The Guardian's front page of the queen, her husband Prince Philip and Charles: "How they must hope the ghost of Diana and her cult is at last at rest."

The newspaper's editorial said Diana's demise was "a death that changed little."

It said any hopes that the press had changed its ways were extinguished by the paparazzis' treatment of William's on-off girlfriend Kate Middleton the minute she seemed like becoming the next princess of Wales.

'Collective guilt'

And 1997's "shower of tears and flowers" from people who had never met Diana now seemed all the harder to explain.

"Collective guilt at the part that a collective obsession had played in her life and death may be as good an explanation as any.

"Maybe the country was acknowledging that its culture needed to change. It may be unsurprising in retrospect that this was not to happen, although it is disappointing nonetheless," it said.

Public grief

It was another attempt to put a stop to the swirl of conspiracy theories, focus on her death and wrangling over her legacy.

Diana's death generated an unprecedented outpouring of public grief in Britain.

One million people took to the streets of London for the funeral and some say the episode changed the country. The tragedy also forced the royal family to present itself as a more open and inclusive institution.

Even in death, Diana has proved a highly divisive figure in Britain, with fans praising her compassion and glamour and detractors criticizing the often sentimental reaction to her death.

Diana still sells

Diana's face still sells magazines and newspapers, and her story inspires an unending stream of books.

A formal inquest into her death opens later this year. Fayed has hired a high-paid legal team to argue that Diana and his son were the victims of an Establishment conspiracy led by the queen's husband, Prince Philip.

A poll commissioned by Channel 4 television suggested that one in four Britons believe Diana was murdered. The telephone survey of 1,016 adults conducted this week had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Diana's admirers, many of them suspicious of the cause of her death and resentful of Charles, tied bouquets, poems and portraits to the gates of Kensington Palace, her former home.

The Rev. Frank Gelli, who has led an informal service outside Kensington Palace every year, said Friday's probably would be the last.

"It would be good if the princess was allowed to rest," he said. *AP, NYT and AFP*

ZTE's response to BONDOC's article in Philippine Star on August 27, 2007

ZTE casts serious doubt on earlier Star column

Director of Sales Management of ZTE Corporation ("ZTE"), Mr. Zhang Shumin, today responds to an article dated August 27, 2007 in *The Philippine Star*, saying that ZTE Corporation hereby states that the story narrated was completely untrue. The contents covered in the story initiated rumors which has overly affected ZTE's reputation. The company casts serious doubt on writer's ultimate "agenda".

On August 27, *The Philippine Star* published an opinion article by columnist Jarius Bondoc titled, "ZTE deal conceived in hotel sexcapades". In the article, the writer used his extraordinary imagination and courage to come up with a story on the National Broadband Network (NBN) project bid in the country.

Mr. Zhang Shumin corrects an obvious error in the column that ZTE is not China's third largest telecoms maker. As a leading global provider of telecommunications equipment and network solutions, ZTE is China's largest listed telecom manufacturer both in Hong Kong and Shen Zhen Stock Exchange Markets. ZTE is a prestigious company well established in the international telecommunications industry.

He also emphasizes that regardless of the country where ZTE operates – China, Philippines, or other parts of the world, ZTE always insists on the legality of running the business and is dedicated to the social development of local markets by providing quality telecommunication services.

ZTE's contribution has won worldwide recognition from local communities, as well as customers. The company has established long-term cooperative relationships with more than 500 operators in over 120 countries, including the US, France, UK, Singapore, etc.

In 2006, *BusinessWeek* selected ZTE as one of the "Top 10 important overseas listed company" and "Top 20 Brands 2006 of China" becoming the only Chinese telecommunication equipment manufacturer awarded in the lists.

In 2007, ZTE was chosen among the Top 20 "Most Globally Competitive Chinese Company" in a business contest jointly organized by Roland Berger Strategy Consultants and Global Entrepreneurs Journal in China.

Over the course of the NBN project deal discussions, ZTE has published several statements to provide factual information of the deal. Unfortunately, the columnist, for some unspeakable reasons, continued to write dozens of articles to challenge ZTE's well-established reputation. The story published on August 27 was merely one of his piece of work in a series of falsifying articles.

As a matter of fact, ZTE has maintained very close relationship with Philippines' business and trade communities in the past few years. And as part of the effort around the globe, ZTE has been fully committed to Philippine market's social and economic developments by working closely with all walks of life, while achieving business profits as an enterprise. We would like to take advantage of this opportunity to make an appeal to everyone with conscience and sensible judgment to censure the irresponsible and unethical act.

ZTE CORPORATION

A16

YOU are the reason why ABS-CBN remains the NATIONWIDE LEADER

We are inspired by the warm welcome you give us in your home.

May we always be one in our joys and pains, hopes and dreams.

Maraming salamat sa inyong tiwala at suporta, Kapamilya.

NATIONWIDE AUDIENCE SHARE*

July 29-Aug 25, 2007, 6AM-12MN

ABS-CBN	49%
Nearest Competitor	36%

TOP WEEKDAY EVENING PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

Primetime

KOKEY	39.7%
YSABELLA	37.4%
KAPAMILYA DEAL OR NO DEAL	35.0%
WALANG KAPALIT	30.0%
Marimar	28.8%

TOP EARLY EVENING NEWSCAST NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

TV PATROL WORLD	34.1%
24 Oras	24.6%

TOP LATE NIGHT NEWSCAST NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 26, 2007

BANDILA	10.8%
Saksi	7.2%

TOP WEEKDAY DAYTIME PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

Variety

WOWOWEE	27.3%
PILIPINAS GAME KNB?	25.4%
Eat Bulaga	16.9%

Talk

BOY & KRIS	15.5%
Sis	10.5%

TOP WEEKEND DAYTIME PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

Musical Variety

ASAP 07	21.9%
SOP	12.8%

Showbiz Talkshow

THE BUZZ	19.5%
ENTERTAINMENT LIVE!	18.1%
Startalk	13.7%
Showbiz Central	12.4%

TOP WEEKEND CURRENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

RATED K	29.0%
Kapuso Mo Jessica Soho	25.2%
XXX	20.8%
Imbestigador	18.1%

TOP TRUE STORY ANTHOLOGY NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

MAALAALA MO KAYA	24.5%
Magpakailanman	14.1%

TOP WEEKEND EVENING PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

Fantasy

KOMIKS	30.3%
Fantastic Man	16.0%

Talk

SHARON	22.1%
Mel & Joey	20.7%

TOP 10 PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE* (Ratings)

July 29-Aug 25, 2007

KOKEY	39.7%
YSABELLA	37.4%
1 VS 100	35.9%
KAPAMILYA DEAL OR NO DEAL	35.0%
TV PATROL WORLD	34.1%
KOMIKS	30.3%
WALANG KAPALIT	30.0%
RATED K	29.0%
Marimar	28.8%
SATURDAY AFTERNOON BLOCKBUSTER	28.6%

*Combined National Urban TV Audience (NUTAM)

ONE COUNTRY
ONE STATION
ONE FAMILY

ABS-CBN

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/regions
Across the NATION
Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

No budget request for village polls

BAGUIO CITY—THE COMMISSION ON ELECtions has not asked the House of Representatives to replenish its budget for the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections in October, indicating that the elections may again be reset, Baguio Rep. Mauricio Domogan said on Saturday.

Domogan, chair of the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (HRET), said many of the ballot boxes used for the May 14 elections this year are still under their custody because of 35 electoral protests that remain unresolved.

He said many other courts hearing similar election cases have custody of other ballot boxes, "so these should have already been replaced."

No request

Comelec would have asked for a budget to replace these boxes, Domogan told reporters during the program commemorating the 98th Charter Day of Baguio City.

There would not be enough time to craft a law releasing to Comelec a supplementary budget to buy ballot boxes for the October elections, Domogan said.

Comelec Commissioner Romeo Brawner had not issued any statement regarding the October elections.

Baguio guest

He arrived here to witness his wife, retired University of the Philippines professor Leonora Fe Brawner, receive the charter day award as an outstanding citizen for her contribution to Baguio education.

But Domogan said Comelec's silence could also mean it managed to save up from its expenses from the May 14 elections to buy new ballot boxes, but poll officials have not informed legislators about this, he said.

"When we will debate [measures seeking to suspend the barangay and SK elections], *kung sabihin ng* Comelec *na* ready *sila* (if the Comelec says its ready), I am sure *tuloy ang eleksyon* (the elections will proceed)," he said.

Reschedule

Domogan said he is not endorsing the scrapping of the barangay and SK elections, saying it may simply be rescheduled to April 2008 to give Comelec time to produce and prepare election materials.

"We have reset barangay elections many times. Overstaying *na ang mga* barangay officials (The officials are already overstaying). They should receive fresh mandates from their constituents," he said.

"The SK [officials] are no longer SK. They are overaged... they are LK, they are 'lakay' (Ilocano for old)," Domogan added.

Comelec, however, must be given time to prepare because the law also requires the poll body to conduct computerized elections.

Comelec prepared

At the Comelec, spokesperson James Jimenez said the October elections for officials of barangays and youth councils was necessary because it would replace old officials and ensure better delivery of basic services.

Romulo Macalintal, one of the country's top election lawyers, said many barangay officials are already overstaying and they needed fresh mandates from the people.

Thousands of first-time voters trooped to Comelec offices in recent weeks, hoping to register for the barangay and youth council elections. *Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon with report from Jerome Aning in Manila*

Fish pens banned in Pangasinan town

BINMALEY, PANGASINAN—The municipal government here would no longer allow the return of fish pens to its rivers after a moratorium on the construction of these structures was imposed two years ago following a massive fish kill that hit this coastal town.

Mayor Simplicio Rosario said allowing fish pens to thrive again would result in the pollution of the town's rivers and "consequently, the death of our *bangus* (milkfish) fish ponds."

At least 70 percent of the town's area is devoted to fishponds, which are scattered in its 33 villages.

FISH PENS occupy a large area of Candaba, Pampanga. Photo was taken during an aerial survey by the Philippine Air Force's 505th Search and Rescue Squadron. ERNIE SARMIENTO

Campaign promise

"Besides, it was my election campaign promise and I'd like to think that the people reelected me because of that," Rosario, now on his second term, said.

At least P15 million worth of *bangus* went belly up in 2005 in various fish pens and ponds here due to low dissolved oxygen level.

Rosario said the town's agriculture officer said overfeeding in the fish pens brought about that condition. This polluted the river because feeds that were not consumed by the fish settled in the water and rotted, he said.

Fishponds relied on the rivers here to refresh its water during the changing of the tides in the Lingayen Gulf.

Opening the river

Rosario said without the fish pens, local fishermen could now fish in the rivers freely for their food.

He said the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has set up satellite stations in the rivers to monitor water quality "in preparation for an oyster farm that we are going to establish."

"We are now also conducting a hydrological survey to establish our rivers' navigational lanes and to determine where our small fishermen could build *pasabing* (fish traps) to catch shrimps," Rosario said.

But he said the local government is still having a problem on the rivers' water quality because fish pens still exist in neighboring Lingayen town and Dagupan City.

Fish return

The river flowing into this town is an extension of the Calmay River in Dagupan City. This town and Lingayen are also separated in the south by a tributary of the Agno River.

"I'm very happy because many of the fishes that have disappeared from our rivers are now coming back," Rosario said.

Rosario said by next year, he hopes to build a fish center here, which was a major revenue source for this town in the 1990s.

"Most of the *bangus* consignacion (wholesalers) in Dagupan City are from this town. So we might as well build our own," he said.

He said he is now looking for funds for the construction of the fish center. *Gabriel Cardinoza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

A WORLD WAR II veteran stands beside an American flag that was to be unfurled as Baguio City celebrated its 98th Charter Day, but his role in the program was bumped off as a result of a tight schedule. VINCENT CABREZA/INQUIRER NORTHERN LUZON

Spotlight falls on Koreans at Baguio's Charter Day

By Vincent Cabreza
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—KOREAN CHILdren and students toured the city's historic monuments as part of the goodwill project of the 98th Baguio Charter Day celebration on Saturday.

Two classes of the Saint Louis University's Special Program for English and Literature (SPEL) woke up early to visit the Wright Park, the Botanical Garden and the marching cadets of the Philippine Military Academy to learn the story of their host city, said Sun Ji Eun, a 22-year-old SLU student.

Sun, who is called Christine by classmates, said she has been in the city for only two months and was not aware of the bad press Koreans have been receiving here.

The Bureau of Immigration (BI) and a task force created by the city government have been auditing all enterprises that are partly owned or that cater to the 6,000 Koreans who live in Baguio.

Immigration officials have filed charges against three Korean landowners who violated laws limiting foreign ownership of local property to 40 percent.

Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. called for unity in his Baguio Day speech, which he presented to an audience that included visiting Korean and Japanese delegates.

But he later told the INQUIRER that uncontrolled Korean enterprises have forced him to shut some of these down.

Antonio Prieto, chief of the BI office here, said five more shops in the city were closed and their Korean owners sued for operating without working permits.

The SLU goodwill tour for foreign students was not part of activities for Baguio Day, but Narciso Padilla, executive director of the Baguio Centennial Commission, said foreigners would always play a role in the summer capital's founding celebration because of its history.

Baguio was created by the American colonial government in 1909.

Padilla said negative reactions to a growing foreign presence may be natural, but people should consider that Baguio, as shown by its history, has always been a "global village."

Dr. Charles Cheng, a Chinese-Filipino, opened a small exhibit highlighting how the construction of Kennon Road helped "internationalize" Baguio.

The Kennon Road (formerly called the Benguet Road) project, one of the most expensive overseas projects by the American government in the early 1900s, brought in different nationalities to build the 41-km mountain road, the shortest among the three major routes to the city from the lowlands. *With reports from Adeliza Arizabal and Isabela Rose Junio, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

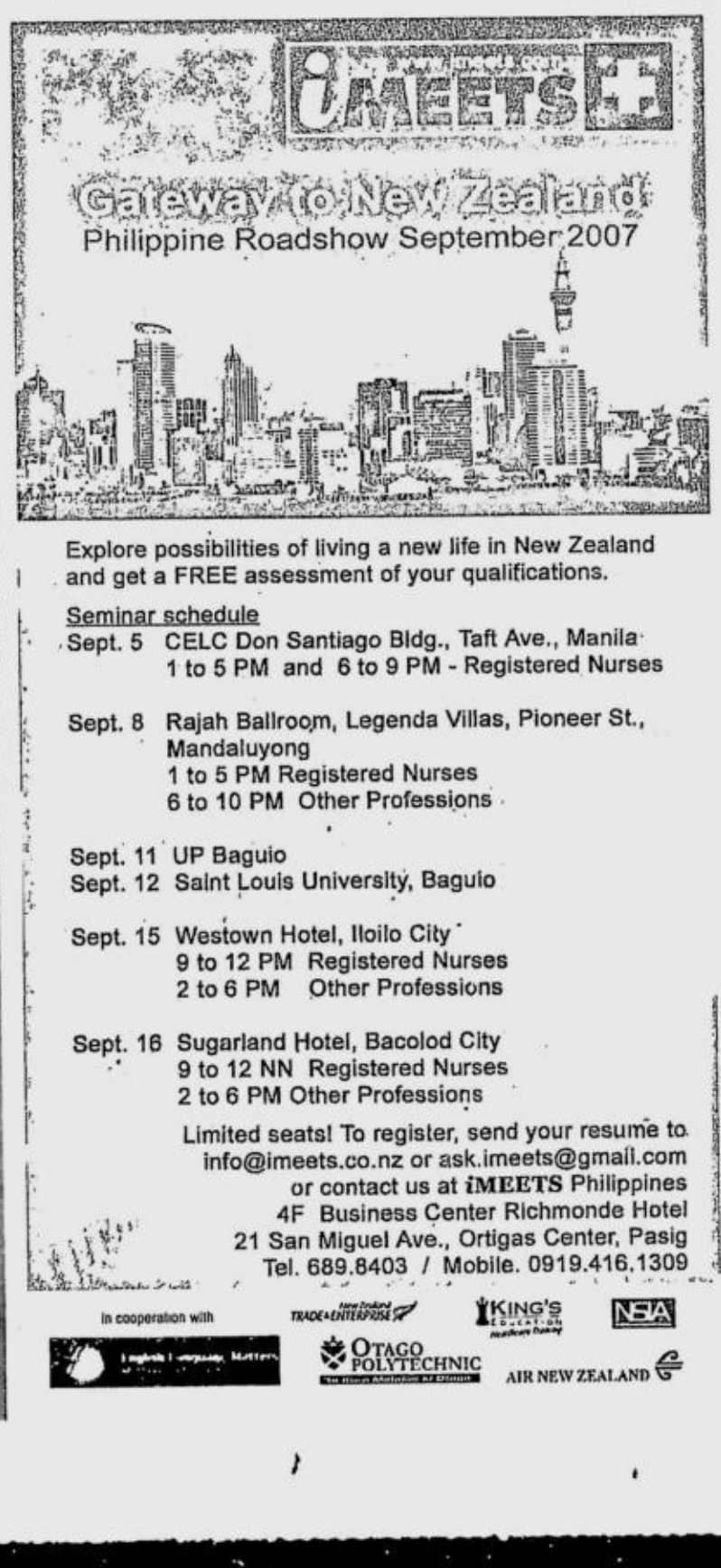
OTAGO POLYTECHNIC
Te Kura Matatini ki Otago

Otago Polytechnic is an internationally recognised government-owned tertiary educational institution offering postgraduate and undergraduate degrees diplomas and certificates, as well as pathway programmes and English language.

Students at Otago Polytechnic benefit from an education that emphasizes real-world learning, with a strong theoretical base.

Graduates from Otago Polytechnic are prepared to succeed in the global community.

For details, call iMEETS Philippines, 4F Business Center Richmonde Hotel, 21 San Miguel Ave., Ortigas, Pasig
Tel. 689.8403 / Mobile. 0919.416.1309
or visit our website at www.otagopolytechnic.ac.nz



Explore possibilities of living a new life in New Zealand and get a FREE assessment of your qualifications.

Seminar schedule

Sept. 5 CELC Don Santiago Bldg., Taft Ave., Manila
1 to 5 PM and 6 to 9 PM - Registered Nurses

Sept. 8 Rajah Ballroom, Legenda Villas, Pioneer St., Mandaluyong
1 to 5 PM Registered Nurses
6 to 10 PM Other Professions

Sept. 11 UP Baguio
Sept. 12 Saint Louis University, Baguio

Sept. 15 Westown Hotel, Iloilo City
9 to 12 PM Registered Nurses
2 to 6 PM Other Professions

Sept. 16 Sugarland Hotel, Bacolod City
9 to 12 NN Registered Nurses
2 to 6 PM Other Professions

Limited seats! To register, send your resume to info@imeets.co.nz or ask.imeets@gmail.com or contact us at iMEETS Philippines
4F Business Center Richmonde Hotel
21 San Miguel Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig
Tel. 689.8403 / Mobile. 0919.416.1309

In cooperation with
TRADE ENTERPRISE · KING'S EDUCATION · NSA · OTAGO POLYTECHNIC · AIR NEW ZEALAND

Negros Oriental looks for ways to keep doctors

By Romy G. Amarado and Jani Arnaiz
Inquirer Visayas

DUMAGUETE CITY—THE NEGROS Oriental provincial government, through the provincial health office, is now looking for ways to keep doctors from leaving government hospitals.

Provincial Health Officer Dante G. Domingo said since the provincial government could not increase the salary of government doctors because of the ceiling set by the salary standardization law for government workers, one possible incentive is to allow them to engage in private practice during their off duty hours.

Domingo said although there were still many doctors who are motivated by the desire to serve the people and not by money, their salaries were very small.

Domingo said there were doctors in the Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital (NOPH) that were still receiving P16,000 a month, which, he said, was the salary of a security guard of the Government Service Insurance System.

Former Provincial Health Officer Ely Villapando said the low pay of government doctors was one of the reasons many doctors studied nursing to land high-paying nursing jobs abroad.

Among the 45 doctors of NOPH, Domingo said only he and six others have not studied nursing.

The same trend of doctors studying nursing was also happening in Southern Leyte.

Four doctors from Southern Leyte's provincial hospital were among the new nurses who passed the licensure examination for nurses released on Aug. 24.

The nursing licensure exam passers are working at the Salvacion Oppus Yñiguez Memorial Provincial Hospital.

REM ZAMORA

WAR BOUND
A Marine inspects one of several cannons that were put on display for the arrival of Maj. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino, the newly appointed head of the Philippine Marines. Several of these cannons were brought and would be brought to Basilan and Sulu for the military's all-out offensive against members of the terror group Abu Sayyaf and rogue Moro guerrillas.

Panlilio shows anger at bank exec over checks

PANLILIO

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Pampanga Gov. Eddie Panlilio displayed anger for the first time when he scolded a Philippine National Bank manager who announced what was supposed to be the branch's decision not to honor checks signed by the provincial government's administrator.

Panlilio, a Catholic priest, reproached PNB San Fernando business manager Albert Sese during their meeting at the governor's office on Friday, two officials present in the meeting told the INQUIRER.

Nervous

"Mr. Sese looked nervous. He was twitching his fingers the whole time that Among (Father) Ed was speaking to him," recalled one of the officials.

The capitol and PNB sources said Panlilio, 53, did not raise his voice or point a finger on Sese.

"I noticed that Among Ed's voice was firmer than usual as he expressed his dismay over the 'utter disrespect' of PNB officials and the repercussions of their decision to the services of the provincial government," the capitol source said.

Reached by phone, Sese confirmed that Panlilio was rather candid with his views and reactions.

Disrespect

Panlilio confirmed his scolding of Sese. "I am offended by their utter disrespect. Imagine, we have extended PNB's deadline from two weeks to two months to give us the documentary requirements on why we should continue banking with them as we try to conform with a [Department of Finance] instruction to transfer accounts to government depository banks like the Land Bank [of the Philippines] and Development Bank of the Philippines. Then this letter by Mr. Sese comes without them asking our side on the confirmation of [administrator Vivian] Dabu," Panlilio said.

Sese's Aug. 30 letter informed Panlilio that the PNB had received an Aug. 15 letter by Sangguniang Panlalawigan secretary Luis Rivera about the non-confirmation of Dabu and that the PNB legal department had issued a memorandum "wherein with due respect and deep regret we are obliged to dishonor provincial treasurer's checks bearing (Dabu's) countersignature."

Single parents

Rivera also furnished the PNB a copy of Resolution No. 936 through which the provincial board did not confirm the appointments of Dabu and provincial legal officer Maria Elissa Velez over questions on their moral and professional qualifications.

Dabu and Velez had said nothing was morally wrong about their being single parents as a result of their decision to raise their respective children after separation or by way of adoption. They said they believed they were highly qualified to serve the government.

"We joined the government with good intentions. We are not grafters nor are we law-breakers," Dabu told the INQUIRER.

Rivera also wrote Sese on Aug. 28 inviting him to attend the Sept. 3 session of the provincial board to "discuss the non-confirmation" of Dabu and Velez. *Tonette Orejas, Inquirer Central Luzon*

MIHCA
Magsaysay Institute of Hospitality and Culinary Arts

2007 FOOD SHOWDOWN WINNERS

Chef Wars Freestyle - Gold Medal and Overall Champion
Danilo Hicario, Jose Mari Mendrano and Jim Munasque

Chef Wars Classical - Bronze Medal
Hazel Lopez, Robert Sanches and Paulo Molina

Cuisine Rapide - Diploma Recognition
Jose Mari Mendrano

Cold Filipino Desserts - Diploma Recognition
Albert Misola

ENROLL NOW! We train winners and we place them in a job.
Call 524-9996 or 526-1721
Visit www.mihca.com.ph

Program and Curriculum developed by:
JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY
America's Career University

A MAGSAYSAY Company

Supported by:
KLO INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Foodservice Division

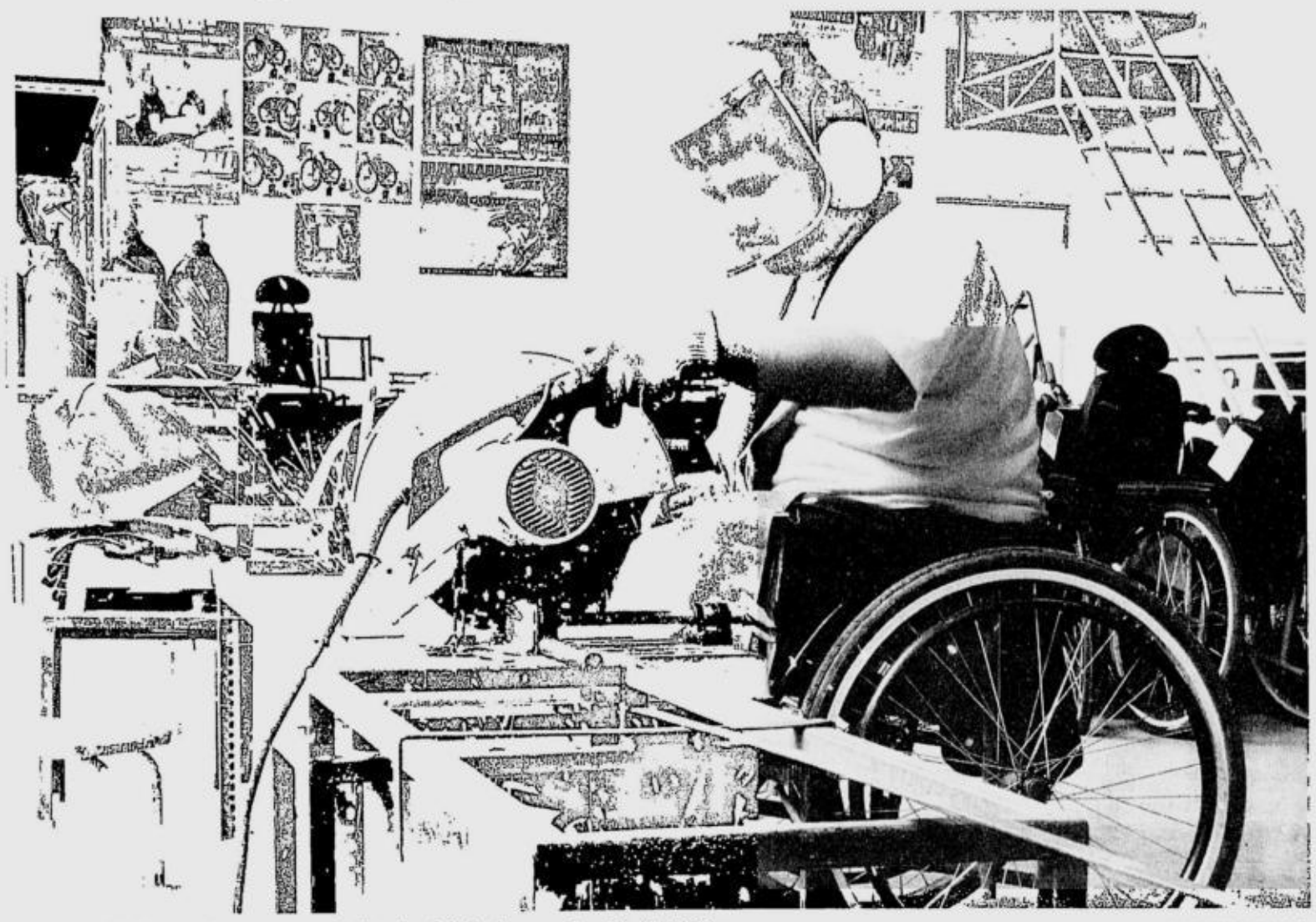
INQUIRER Mindanao

E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/regions

Editor **Jun Bandayrel**
Bureau Chief **Nico A. Alconaba**

Giving hope to the physically-challenged



MARLON Aying produces custom-built wheelchairs for people with disabilities. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Misamis center builds wheelchairs fit for users

By Ma. Cecilia Rodriguez
Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental

MARLON AYING, 27, BEAMS proudly as he shows his latest innovation.

"You see, I improved the brakes so that it will grip tightly on the wheels and there's no chance the chair will roll off," explains Marlon, using his own chair to demonstrate what he means.

Marlon has been wheelchair-bound all his life since he succumbed to polio as an infant. Despite his disability, his family loved and supported him. He finished electrical engineering in Ateneo de Cagayan Xavier University, played guitar in a band and even put up a small business.

"But I wanted to help people that are not as lucky as I am," says Marlon.

At that time, American engineer Matthew McCambridge was looking for skilled and hardworking persons with disability as manpower for a factory of technologically-advanced wheelchairs. Matthew works for the Freedom Technology Inc., a private enterprise mothered by the French humanitarian organization Handicap International (HI).

"Freedom technology makes innovative, top quality custom-built wheelchairs that will allow persons with disabilities to be productive members of their community," says McCambridge.

"We needed technicians who will make wheelchairs according to a detailed specification unique to each of our client's needs," he adds.

And who else can know better the needs of people with disabilities (PWDs) than those who are also with disabilities.

When Marlon learned about Freedom Technology from a friend, he was sure this was his calling. McCambridge readily hired him along with five other PWDs.

"I tell them they are here to work, no special treatment. They work just like the other regular guys here," says McCambridge of the PWDs that he hired.

"And they are amazing. They work fast, they are innovative, creative, and very hardworking," he adds.

The HI found the best place to construct the wheelchair factory in 2004 within the Phividec Estates in Tagoloan, 30 minutes from the central district of Cagayan de Oro City.

Marlon travels early to the factory every day. "There's no problem, my wheelchair is foldable so I can easily ride a jeepney. It's also very dynamic as it allows me to move around freely. The wheels are sturdy," says Marlon of his own product.

"Like Marlon, other PWDs can also live productively by having reliable wheelchairs custom-made for his or her needs," says Eric Velasco, HI program manager for Freedom Technology.

"What we produce here are wheelchairs that fit your lifestyle, a chair that gives you comfort but does not limit you to maximize your full potential," he says. "That's why our motto in HI is 'Vivre Debout (Live standing up),' we give a chance to PWDs to integrate in their community by improving their mobility."

Marlon says he takes it upon himself to test the wheelchairs first to make sure everything's safe and sturdy. "We keep in mind that every wheelchair we make will give a new life to someone like us. That is what motivates us."

"I'm able to help others, at the same time help my family as well," says Marlon who has to support his parents and siblings from his modest earnings.

Behind the tools and machines at his workplace in the factory, Marlon churns out an upbeat message to other PWDs: "Just don't lose hope. There's a life for you out there."

MATTHEW MCCAMBRIDGE, an expert in product design recounts how his mentor, Ralph Hotchkiss of the Worldwide Wheelchair International, learned the innovative techniques of designing and manufacturing wheelchairs: "He learned from Filipinos. He actually studied at Tahanang Walang Hagdan decades ago. It was then the only large-scale manufacturer of custom-built wheelchairs that used locally-available materials."

Freedom Technology (FT) Inc. takes on the tradition of Tahanang Walang Hagdan in wheelchair-making and puts in global technology as added-value. The only Freedom Technology wheelchair production center in the country in Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental has produced more than 300 custom-built wheelchairs for clients all over the country.

"Like in Tahanang Walang Hagdan, FT does not just make wheelchairs. There's a long process involved," says McCambridge who supervises a team of technicians in the wheelchair factory in Tagoloan.

Process

A wide network of physical therapists and social workers mobilized by Handicap International (HI), mother organization of FT, jumpstarts the process by filling in order forms signed by their patients. "The physical therapist and rehabilitation coordinators know the needs and lifestyle of their patients so we rely on them to make sure every wheelchair we make fits the client," says McCambridge.

The order forms are then collated and submitted to the Tagoloan factory. The technician team leader will draw a design according to the specific needs indicated in the order form. The finished product must pass through two phases of quality check before it is delivered to the client. Every wheelchair takes two weeks to one month to finish.

In its product catalogue, Freedom Technology emphasizes its capability to customize and personalize wheelchairs, with high emphasis on quality. "Like prescription eyeglasses, a wheelchair should be custom-tailored to the specific need of the client," it states.

"But these are not like the expensive ones imported from abroad," quips McCambridge and explains that they use locally-available raw materials to reduce the costs and for easy maintenance and repair.

Most of the FT clients are also beneficiaries of HI in Mindanao, among them war victims who are given free rehabilitation treatment. "Although many of our clients are indigents, we don't just give away the wheelchair. We make sure the client provides equity, even as small as P500 will do," says McCambridge of their strategy of instilling a sense of ownership among the users of their wheelchair.

"This way, they give value to the product and they won't think twice of complaining if the product has a defect. It's a sure way of getting customer feedback," he adds.

Unsafe practice

Cecile Roy, Philippines Program Director of HI, admits that there's still so much work to do.

"There's more than half a million PWDs in the country who either does not have wheelchairs or use ordinary wheelchairs that are not custom-made for them," she says. Now reaching its 20th year in the Philippines, HI works in over 60 countries around the globe and partners with public and private organizations to implement its programs focused on mainstreaming PWDs in various development opportunities and working for the prevention of disability and disabling situations.

Roy also expresses alarm over the practice of many international charity organizations that go to a developing country like the Philippines and give away ordinary wheelchairs for free, without checking if it fits the user. "While their motive may be good, giving out wheelchairs at random is not safe," she says.

McCambridge says such wheelchairs could do more harm than good. "A PWD who sits on an ill-fitting and stiff wheelchair 16 hours a day can develop severe sores and back problems," he says. ***Ma. Cecilia L. Rodriguez***

Schoolchildren get English, Math workbooks

By Edwin O. Fernandez
Cotabato City

THE UNITED STATES AGENCY for International Development (USAID) has recently released 61,000 workbooks in English and Mathematics this school year in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

The distribution of the reading materials came as blessing for Grades 1 to 3 pupils in public elementary schools in Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Tawi-Tawi, Sulu and Shariff Kabunsuan as the Department of Education continues to deal with the perennial problem on the shortage of books.

Thomas Crehan, USAID chief of education, said pupils in the towns of Barira and North Upi in Shariff Kabunsuan, Datu Paglas in Maguindanao, Marawi City, Indanan and Siasi in Sulu, Bongao and Panglima Sugala in Tawi-Tawi were beneficiaries of the Education Quality and Access for Learning and Livelihood Skills (EQuALLS-2) project.

Crehan said the workbooks were developed by the Synergeia Foundation, an EQuALLS implementing partner, and were given as part of an effort to complement the DepEd's textbooks distribution program.

"[This is to] alleviate the scarcity of textbooks in the public school system in poor communities in southern Philippines," Crehan said in a statement.

He said the USAID also aims to stir interest in reading among the pupils in these poor communities.

"Each student gets workbooks in reading and mathematics and the beautifully designed books would stir interest among pupils into reading and numbers," Crehan said.

The workbooks cover lessons for the entire school year and feature exercises meant to take the pupils to higher levels of learning and to test if they have improved their mastery of the subjects, he said.

"These materials have been found to reinforce learning inside the classroom by providing each student with work exercises on their day-to-day lessons," Mayor Albert Que of Bongao, Tawi-Tawi was quoted as saying during the recent distribution of workbooks to schoolchildren of Datu Halun Elementary School in the said town.

"School heads of schools-beneficiary said the materials have been very helpful as it was instrumental in raising the scores of primary schoolchildren in Mathematics and making the transition from nonreaders to effective and fast readers," Janice Faye Sevilla, EQuALLS communications officer, said in another statement.

Dr. Udtog Kawit, ARMM education secretary, lauded the USAID for the support it has been providing to the region.

"This historic act for the betterment of our schoolchildren will always be remembered. Teacher-beneficiaries are now equipped with the needed skills and aid materials to increase the level of education of our poor schoolchildren," Kawit said.

In North Upi, for example, an upland agricultural town 30 kilometers south of here, the reading program has reduced the number of nonreaders from a high of 87 percent in 2005 to 16 percent by the end of the school year in 2006-2007, according to Sevilla.

GRADE I pupils in the island of Siasi, Sulu show off their new workbooks given by the United States Agency for International Development. PHOTO COURTESY OF EQUALLS.

"This means that when the program started, only two of 10 pupils had appropriate readings skills and the rest were nonreaders. This year, eight of 10 pupils in Grades 2 and 3 now have appropriate reading skills," Sevilla said.

EQuALLS also provided manuals for teachers and school heads.

The teachers' manuals, Sevilla said, are equipped with daily lesson plans that unburden teachers of the task of daily lesson plan preparation, "allowing them to devote more energy in devising creative ways to make learning more fun and interesting for their students."

This is the third year that the USAID-EQuALLS project has provided children's workbooks and teachers' manuals in the ARMM.

Sevilla said over the past three years, EQuALLS has provided educational materials to a total of 125,335 elementary school students in the region.

The ARMM is one of the country's regions with a low literacy rate.

Website: www.inquirer.net/nation
NEWS
Text us your feedback: Inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Déjà vu for Lenny Villa's ma

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

TIAONG, QUEZON—FOR GERARDA VILLA, THE mother of another hazing victim who died 16 years ago, the sight of the lifeless and battered body of UP senior student Cris Anthony Mendez was one painful déjà vu.

"They have the same chronology of events. Their badly beaten bodies were both brought to the hospital by three vehicles which then hurriedly left. Based on news accounts, I can say I again experienced the death of Lenny," Villa, president of the Crusade Against Violence (CAV), told the INQUIRER in an interview at the Mendez house in Barangay Talisay on Saturday.

Villa's son Lenny was a neophyte of Aquila Legis, a fraternity in the Ateneo de Manila University Law School, who died after three days of bloody hazing rites in February 1991.

Lenny, a first year Ateneo student, died of serious physical injuries at the Chinese General Hospital where he was rushed.

Villa said they won the case in the lower court against 26 members of the Aquila Legis but it was overturned by the Court of Appeals. The case is now with the Supreme Court.

"Every time there's a hazing victim, my heart bleeds in grief. I remember my son. It's really lonely," Villa said.

"What else should we do? We've already exerted all efforts to stop this hazing practice but it seems our labors are not enough. I'm afraid that I would not be able to see the fruits of our campaign to totally stop hazing," she added.

But Mendez family members believed that the 21-year-old graduating UP student was not a hazing victim.

"The family could not share the belief that Cris died from hazing. He wouldn't engage himself in such group. Besides, he did not mention anything about fraternity when he was still alive," said village chair Pedro Panopio, who spoke in behalf of the family.

Panopio hinted that Cris could have been a victim of a free-for-all mauling because of the presence of fatal injuries in different parts of his body.

During the interview, Cris' mother, Cristina Garcia Mendez, declined to answer questions and just silently sat beside the casket of her son.

Exclusive Jump In downloads!

Wallpapers

Text W<keyword> to 2802. Ex: W IZZYJUMP P20/Wallpaper

Logos

Text L<keyword> to 2802. Ex: L JUMPSIGN P15/Logo

Text Cards

Text TC<keyword> to 2802. Ex: TC JUMPTITLE P15/Textcard

Ringback Tones

Enjoy these Ringback Tones for FREE for 3 days!

Title	Keyword
Jumpin'	JUMPIN
It's My Turn Now	MYTURN
It's On	ITSON
Jump To The Rhythm	JUMP
I'm Ready	READY
Let It Go	LETGO
Push It To The Limit	LIMIT
Vertical	VERTICAL
Where Do I Go From Here	GO

To download, text <keyword> to 2332. Ex: JUMPIN
*Available to non-ringback subscribers only. Promo available until Dec. 31, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1888, Series of 2007

For True Tones and full track music, text JUMPIN to 2802
P30/truetone • P50/full track music

Jump In CD Out Now! Disney Mobile ©Disney 2007 All Rights Reserved EMI Globe

Catch Jump In on Disney Channel!

© 2007 Globe Telecom, Inc.

Doc to talk, finally, on hazing victim

By Jeannette I. Andrade

THE DOCTOR OF THE VETERANS MEMORIal Medical Center (VMMC) who brought suspected hazing victim Cris Anthony Mendez to the government hospital has finally expressed willingness to break his silence and disclose what he knows about the death of the 20-year-old UP-Diliman student.

Chief Inspector Lino Banaag of the Quezon City Police District Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit (QCPD-CIDU) told the INQUIRER that Dr. Francisco Cruz Jr., the assistant chief of the VMMC ophthalmology department, was willing to give a statement to the police to explain how he brought Cris to the hospital.

"We talked for a few minutes and initially he told me that Cris was brought to his house in Congressional Village at around midnight of Monday (Aug. 27)," Banaag said. But the doctor did not disclose the names of those who took Cris to his house.

Based on VMMC hospital records, Cruz brought Cris to the hospital at around 1:00 a.m., Monday, where he was declared dead on arrival.

Banaag said Cruz had promised to surface at the right time, but did not give any definite period.

A source in the QCPD, who requested anonymity because he was not authorized to speak about the case, said Cruz's lawyer had initially wanted to provide his client's statement on Friday but was apparently held back by the indignation rally staged by UP students and academe.

An emergency room report obtained by the INQUIRER indicated that Cris was already dead when he was brought to the Veterans hospital. His fingernails and lips were blackened and his pupils dilated.

Victim of mauling

The report indicated that Cruz had told attending doctors that Cris was a victim of "mauling" but did not provide any more details. The report also indicated the bruising on the back of the arms and thighs of Cris.

Attending doctors at Veterans had tried to revive Cris but to no avail.

The Philippine National Police (PNP) Crime Laboratory Service has yet to release its autopsy report.

Top UP officials have vowed to determine the cause of Cris' death and bring its perpetrators to justice.

"Like UP Diliman Chancellor Sergio S. Cao, I wish to assure the Mendez family, and the general public, that the UP administration will spare no effort in determining the cause of this cruel death and bringing its perpetrators to justice," UP President Emerlinda R. Roman said in a statement.

Roman, who is currently meeting UP alumni in the US, called on all members of the UP community and alumni to assist Cao in his investigation, and to cooperate in renewed efforts to prevent a repeat of the senseless violence.

"This sporadic, irrational violence is not only a hideous blot on the University's record, but a source of great sorrow to individual families," Roman said.

UP officials have announced the preventive suspension of all the officers of the Sigma Rho fraternity to ensure an impartial investigation of the death of Cris.

Cris was reportedly recruited by the fraternity prior to his death. It was Ariel Paolo Ante, the National College of Public Administration and Governance (NCPAG) chair and Sigma Rho member, who allegedly was the last person seen with Cris on Saturday afternoon.

Ante is a fellow of Cris in the NCPAG student council but Cris represents the college in the UP student council. Ante has not surfaced since news of Cris' death circulated in the UP community. He has remained incommunicado and has not been attending his classes at UP.

Meanwhile, the Mendez family appealed to those who may know something about what really happened to Cris to come out and cooperate with the authorities to bring justice to his senseless death.

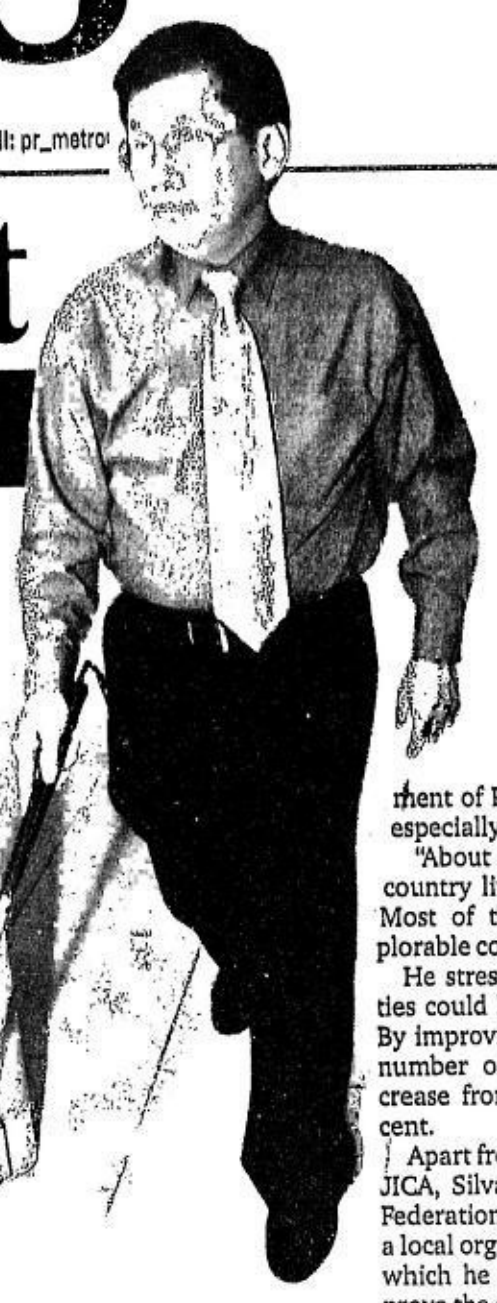
A plus METRO

Website: www.inquirer.net/metro

Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

Text us your feedback: Inquirer mat name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_metro

Architect sees the light in a dark world



Being blind has not stopped him from pursuing what he loves: Designing and building structures

JAIME Silva says he finally accepted the loss of his eyesight when he started using a cane in 1992. PHOTOS BY RUDY ESPERAS

By Margaux C. Ortiz

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN DESIGNING houses for exclusive villages was Jaime Silva's life.

"It was what I really wanted to do since I was a kid," Silva, who is in his 50s, said in an interview in his Makati office. He loved two things: Drawing and mathematics, and architecture combined those two.

"It was a good time. I was doing the thing I loved most and enjoying it," Silva recalled. But then, almost literally in the blink of an eye, he lost it all.

Silva and his twin brother, Tomas, were diagnosed with congenital glaucoma at birth. After suffering from a condition of increased pressure within the eyeball throughout their childhood and teenage years, the inevitable happened.

As they reached adulthood, they began to lose their eyesight. Tomas' glaucoma surfaced when he was in his 40s but Jaime's condition proved to be more severe.

"Tomas can still see light and shadows and he can walk on his own without using a cane," Silva said. He, on the other hand, became blind at age 28.

Silva said he stopped working and immediately flew to the United States to undergo surgery.

Series of surgeries

"I thought that after the operation, I could go back to work," he said. But several more surgeries over the next eight years followed.

Silva said he felt hopeful after each operation because he could see clearly. But after some time, his world would become blurry and then turn dark again.

After 18 surgeries, Silva and his wife, Helen, decided to come home and continue their disrupted lives with their children. It took some time before he adjusted to the fact that he would not be able to design houses anymore as architecture was "a visual occupation."

Silva then ventured into wholesaling, pepper farming and retail but found out that these were not for him. "I felt so unproductive and my self-esteem plummeted," he recalled.

He was still hopeful that his eyesight would someday be restored. But when he started using a cane in 1992, he gradually accepted the fact that he would never be able to see again.

Moving on, finally

"When that realization hit me, I looked for other things to do. The hope of seeing again prevented me from moving on," Silva said.

One day, someone suggested that he drop by a new computer school for the blind in Pasay City. "Computers were just starting to take off when I lost my eyesight in the early 1980s. I had no idea what they were all about," Silva said, laughing.

After studying for three months, Silva helped his brother-in-law build a house. It was then that he realized he could go back to architecture, not as a designer, but as a "construction manager."

"We made sure that the construction went smoothly and efficiently, overseeing the materials and the equipment," Silva said.

After that, Silva managed the construction of single-detached houses and commercial low-rise buildings until he got involved in the construction of the DPC building on Chino Roces Avenue.

"When the building owners asked me if I wanted to manage this building, I immediately said yes. I took courses on property management at the Ateneo de Manila University to prepare myself for the job," Silva said.

At the same time, Silva was asked to join meetings of the National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons.

"I was designated head of the monitoring support group of the NCWDP subcommittee on accessibility," Silva said. One of the committee's jobs was to look into fastfood chains that had failed to implement basic accessibility facilities for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

As he got busier, Silva learned to manage his time and prioritize. "While conducting dialogues with fastfood chain administrators regarding PWD-friendly toilets, I was scouting for tenants for the newly constructed DPC building," Silva said.

He added, "As I was working on my accessibility advocacy, the Lord was also taking care of my career."

In 2000, Silva was asked to head the United Architects of the Philippines' committee on accessibility. He gave talks on accessibility before members of the organization nationwide.

"I told them about Batas Pambansa 344 and the importance of access facilities for PWDs in all buildings," Silva said.

Under the law, according to the architect, buildings must comply with five basic requirements: They must construct accessible ramps and toilets, reserve special parking spaces for PWDs, use non-skid materials and ensure that their signages are accurate.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency later recognized Silva's efforts after he attended the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand in 2000.

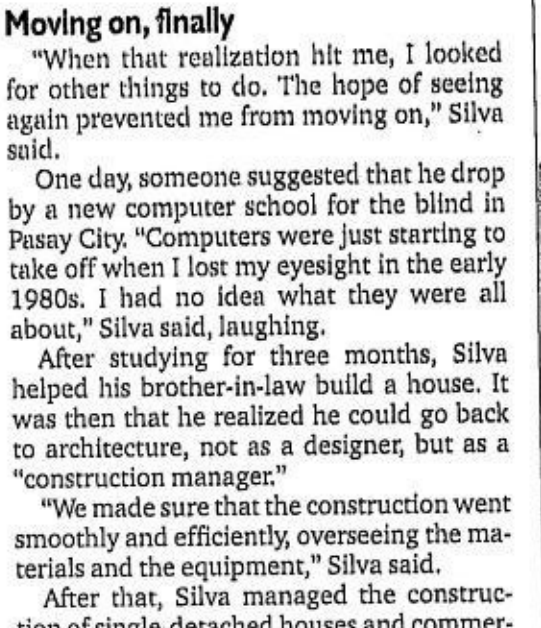
JICA officials asked him to organize a national convention on accessibility in 2005 and embark on a five-year project for the improvement of PWD facilities in the Philippines, especially in the provinces.

"About 85 to 90 percent of PWDs in the country live in the provinces," Silva said. Most of them, he lamented, live in deplorable conditions.

He stressed that only good access facilities could level the playing field for PWDs. By improving these facilities, Silva said the number of rehabilitated PWDs could increase from the current two to three percent.

Apart from working with the NCWDP and JICA, Silva is also president of the Makati Federation for Persons with Disabilities and a local organization on Chino Roces Avenue, which he founded a few years ago to improve the quality of business in the area.

"I just want to be proactive in all the things I do: Be it in my career or helping those around me," Silva said, smiling.



SILVA uses a computer specially designed for the blind at his office.

East West Bank offers its best home loan package.

•Lowest 1 year fixed interest rate of 8% per annum • Approval in as fast as 3 days*• Payment terms of up to 30 years

Apply now! Call us at 888-17.

Apply online through www.eastwestbanker.com.

Or text us: Type EWB <space> HOMESUITE <space> YOUR NAME <space> LANDLINE. Then send to 2327 for Globe users or 0917-8902327 for other network subscribers.

Home Suite Loan BancNet PDIC *Subject to submission of complete requirements.

EASTWESTBANK

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

GLOBAL Pinoy

Editor Gerry Lirio

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007

E-mail: pr_global_pinoy@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer gp name/age/city/message
to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

"OUR people can't just cry and die because we are running out of doctors; public health need not be left only in the hands of doctors."

ALRAN BENGZON, *December 2005*

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world, and wherever work can be contracted to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

Palace officer drops everything for man of her dreams

LOVE blooms in springtime between Vangie Carillo and Christopher Miles now both in the autumn of their years. They exchanged "I dos" amid the serene but scenic green of Waihi Beach in New Zealand in March 2004.

By Michael Lim Ubac

AUCKLAND—HOW FAR WOULD YOU GO TO follow your heart? For Evangeline Carillo-Miles, she would follow it to the ends of the earth. Vangie's extraordinary search for love spanned the terms of five Philippine presidents and brought her thousand of miles away from home. She's now 56.

Before she met her husband nearly four years ago, she was twisting and turning in a space she felt could not contain her. Only when she stepped out of a sheltered life did she finally meet the man of her dreams.

That whirlwind encounter in this foreign land one spring forever changed her life.

She had to drop everything, including a rewarding career in Malacañang, to start a new life in New Zealand.

"I filed my retirement in October 2005 after my marriage in March 2004," said Vangie in an interview last June, just as the chilly breeze was ushering in the winter season in this southernmost country in the Pacific.

Spring of love

The soft-spoken former Malacañang information officer, who had served under Presidents Ferdinand Marcos to Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, recalled meeting her future husband during a "spring of love" in New Zealand.

"I went to Auckland in 2003 for a one-month visit," she said, admitting that never did it enter her mind that a British national residing in Waihi town would steal her heart.

Apparently, it was love at first sight for Christopher Miles, a retired mechanical engineer who once served in the Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom.

When she returned to Manila, the agony of indecision tormented her day and night.

The proverbial burning bed sent Vangie packing her bags in no time. She came back here six months later, married Chris and settled in the sleepy but picturesque town of Waihi, a two-hour ride from Auckland.

Looking back, she said it's not Waihi Beach, which offers 9 kilometers of sweeping white sand and is one of the safest surf beaches in this country, that attracted her to New Zealand.

Vangie, brought up in old-fashioned ways, is no fan of boogie boarding, kayaking or kite boarding, either.

It's the simple life that lured her and over 20,000 Filipinos to migrate to this land popularly known to have more sheeps than humans.

One of the most famous gold mining towns in this country, Waihi is for those who enjoy the simple life. They call it your kind-of-town, with old wooden buildings, a white sand beach where one can enjoy shellfish collecting and fishing.

"Being married to a retiree does not mean a boring life," said Vangie.

"Now, I can do the other things I've always longed to do: Baking, cooking, gardening, reading, craftwork like beading and embroidery."

Both share a fascination for classical music and, as if to symbolize a union of two cultures, they play jigsaw puzzles.

"We listen to classical music and discuss our favorite literature," she said. "We also spend hours and hours doing jigsaw puzzles. At present, we're into 4,000 pieces."

But it's not pure "intellectual" pursuits that they enjoy doing together.

"We love just driving in the countryside on sunny days, or trekking in the Karangahake Gorge," she said of the sharply winding canyon which lies at the southern end of the Coromandel Peninsula in New Zealand's North Island.

Life in Malacañang

With Chris, her life now is a far cry from the high-profile one she left back in Manila.

Vangie had seen tumultous times up-close at the Palace for 32 years.

Right after finishing Journalism at the University of the Philippines, she landed a job as feature writer in the Bureau of National and Foreign Information, then an agency of the Department of Public Information.

The Office was renamed Bureau of Communication Services, under the Office of the Press Secretary, after the 1986 Edsa Revolution.

Vangie relishes the time she had spent in the government's media machinery, doing audio-visual production.

"My work was very rewarding in the sense that I was able to do something I always loved to do—writing and photography," she said, aside from having colleagues who were "highly respected in the field of journalism."

She still vividly recalls the camaraderie among officemates and friends, and of course the "perks," which included meeting politicians, media people and other government officials from other countries.

But for all that, she did not keep a single picture with any of the presidents she had served.

"Friends, relatives in the Philippines had the mistaken notion that I was able to see the President up-close in the course of my work. Hence, the comments, 'you must have heaps of photos taken with the President.'"

"Goodness me, I've served five Presidents, had the opportunity to be with the coverage team during provincial visits, but not one photo with any of these Presidents," she quips.

1st photo with RP president

So she made a wish, which was instantly granted, during the state visit of President Macapagal-Arroyo to New Zealand, from May 29 to 30, 2007.

But success without love was meaningless, she would discover later.

So how did the two people separated by great distance and cultural differences, meet? Not exactly a boy-meets-girl scene played out on TV soaps.

They were introduced to each other by a mutual friend, Zeny Coupe, from Auckland through the Internet.

"E-mails were exchanged (as many as five a day) between us beginning April 28, 2003," said Vangie, who was then 52 and "never been married."

She met Chris, then 66, divorced and with three grown-up children.

"It was in September 2003 when I first came to NZ to personally meet Christopher. I stayed in his home in Waihi for a month, and met his many friends there," she said, recalling that even the weather set the tone for their love affair.

Don't marry a stranger

"It was springtime—when everything was starting to bloom. What an appropriate time for a new love to blossom! New, in the sense that he was still feeling the loneliness that is naturally concommitant to divorces, and I was just recovering from a broken heart."

She went home back to Manila bewildered and confused.

"Should I marry him?" Vangie kept on nagging herself.

She was looking for the sign.

"Is he the one?"

The suitor provided the answer.

"In one of his e-mails to me when I was back in Manila, he wrote 'I would understand if you changed your mind about marrying me.' The crucial decision had to be made," Vangie told herself.

She said her sisters were not very pleased with the idea of "me marrying a total stranger."

"You know how it is with the Filipino culture—one has to consider the family in making decisions, especially that of a marriage," said Vangie. Never mind if she's way too old to consult her family on marital plans.

"I was at a crossroads—I was living comfortably with my salary from the government, and I was enjoying the office, and the post I held was, to a certain extent, very reputable.

"Through the years, I have had made many good friends, and had enjoyed life with my family. Would I be prepared to give these up, marry Chris and live in another country?"

Grandma's advice

In the end, love triumphed.

"It was perhaps my desire to be up on my feet again and get on with life (instead of allowing the old wound fester) that made me decide to marry Chris," she said.

"Frankly, I was not head over heels in love with him, but he was with me. Then I remembered my (grandmother's) advice to us: marry a man who will love you more than you love him."

He may be not that young, but the groom assured her of his faithfulness, "and that he would try his very best to please and make the wife happy," said Vangie.

So they tied the knot on March 27, 2004 at the St. James Presbyterian Church in Waihi. It was doubly momentous for Chris because it was his 67th birthday.

So far, the husband kept his word to love and to cherish his wife. "True, indeed! Chris was the most loving and kind man I've met. I did not have any difficulty adjusting to a new culture, much more adjusting to a married life with a Briton," she said.

Lady of leisure

At their conjugal home, it was Chris who did most of the adjusting to Vangie.

"He has been very patient with me, as I tend to be strong-willed and stubborn at times. We both have our eccentricities, and these don't interfere with our married life."

As she has always told Chris, Vangie felt that every day is a Saturday or a Sunday.

"I need not get up early to prepare for the day's work, as I used to when I had a job in Manila. Now I could sleep to my heart's content without worrying about breakfast to make, or deadlines to beat."

Their friends tease her as a "lady of leisure." To compensate for her queenly disposition, she does the cooking, and Chris has always complimented "her culinary skills."

"What he did not know was that most of my cooking was experimental. I have heaps of recipe books and magazines, but I hardly used them." She said the recipe photos give her "inspiration." "The beautiful presentation of the food makes them look delicious," she said.

But not all is rosy in this picturesque country.

Vangie tried working in a blueberries orchard for two picking seasons, and also had a stint as grader in a kiwi fruit packing house. "These are seasonal work, usually from March to April for blueberries, and April to July for the kiwi fruits," she said.

But with Chris, Vangie realized another dream fulfilled—to live overseas. "While working at the OPS, I managed to save money so I could travel to countries that had always fascinated me, mostly in Europe," she says.

Beautiful all-year round

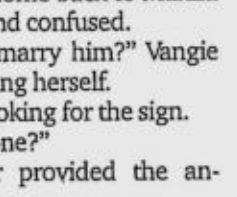
In her last e-mail to the INQUIRER, she wrote: "Winter is almost over. In a week's time, it will be spring. But NZ is beautiful all year round."

And beautiful it is since, as Vangie discovered, love blossoms everywhere.

Marrying Chris is so far the best thing that ever happened to her. There are regrets in leaving one's native land.

But as one famous British soul singer says, "there's no use in trying when the pieces don't fit any more."

Getting a US visa is not enough



IMFO

Lourdes Santos Tancinco

THE VISITOR VISA (B2) IS the most commonly used visa by those entering the US for purposes of visiting for pleasure or business. This visa is used in order that the holder may engage in limited legitimate activities of recreational character. Unfortunately, even for those who have been using their B2 visas in the past may still experience expedited removal at the port of entry. This expedited removal is often termed as "airport to airport." But how can one avoid being sent back despite the possession of a valid visa?

Maria has a B1/B2 (visitors) visa. She regularly enters the US every summer for the last five years until he met Peter three years ago. Peter dated Maria and even goes to Manila often to see Maria.

Maria, a Filipino national and Peter, a US citizen, have a two year relationship. Peter proposed to Maria and both agreed on the date and place of marriage. They want to marry in Las Vegas NV and Maria will then adjust her status in the US.

B2 visa

Maria and Peter planned to marry in June 2007. So in April 2007, Maria entered the US using her B2 visa. She was asked by the CBP Inspector at the port of entry at the San Francisco International Airport regarding the purpose of her trip. She said that she was entering the US to get married and to apply for adjustment of status. At that time, Maria was sent for secondary inspection and then was told that she was entering the US with the wrong visa. Maria claims that it is always the kind of visa that she uses in entering. Maria was sent back to Manila and was told to get a fiancé visa before entering the US.

B2 visa is intended for visitors entering the United States for "purposes of tourism or to make social visits to relatives or friends. The Foreign Affairs Manual (FAM) also includes specific activities that are permissible recreational activities—including visits for medical treatment; participating in conventions, conferences, or convocations of fraternal, social or service organizations; dependents of certain nonimmigrant aliens following to join the principal alien; dependents of members of any branch of the US armed forces temporarily assigned for duty in the United States; and for short course of study incidental to the temporary visit for pleasure (ie avocational activity example a two week, nonacademic course on water skiing or a similar recreational activity).

The K1 visa is the appropriate visa for the fiancé of a US citizen who intends to remain in the United States with his or her spouse.

A B2 visa may be issued and used to enter the US only in situations where the applicant is entering he Untied States: (1) simply to meet the fiancé's family (2) to become engaged; (3) to make arrangements for the wedding; or (4) to renew a relationship with the prospective spouse provided the consular officer is satisfied that the fiancé intends to return to his or her residence abroad.

Fiancé visa

In the case of Maria, it was clear based on her interview at the port of entry that she was coming to the US to marry her US citizen boyfriend. She also clearly indicated that she was going to reside in the US after she gets married. This resulted in the refusal of her admission considering that her sole intention was to marry and be with her US citizen spouse. She should have taken the necessary step to obtain her fiancé visa. While she was able to enter in the past with a B2 visa, it does not necessarily follow that in subsequent entry she will be admitted again especially if the intention is different and not a permissible activity of a B2 visa holder. The intention to enter the US must be clearly manifested every time one enters the US and this becomes a key factor in determining admissibility to a visitor visa holder.

(IMFO stands for Immigration Information. Lawyer Lourdes Santos Tancinco may be reached at 887-7177 or through email at law@tancinco.com).

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Seoul said to have paid $20-M ransom

Taliban commander says money to be used for arms, more suicide attacks

SPIN BOLDAK—SOUTH KOREA paid Afghanistan's Taliban more than $20 million to release 19 missionaries they were holding hostage, a senior insurgent leader said on Saturday, vowing to use the funds to buy arms and mount suicide attacks.

"We got more than $20 million from them (the Seoul government)," the commander told Reuters on condition of anonymity. "With it we will purchase arms, get our communication network renewed and buy vehicles for carrying out more suicide attacks."

"The money will also address to some extent the financial difficulties we have had," he said, but did not elaborate.

The commander is on the 10-man leadership council of the Islamist Taliban movement, which is led by the elusive Mullah Mohammad Omar.

But in Seoul, Foreign Minister Song Min-Soon said Saturday that South Korea had no choice about negotiating with the Taliban with the lives of 19 hostages at stake.

Song made the remarks as South Korea came under fire for negotiating with the rebels.

When asked why Seoul had negotiated with the insurgents in breach of international norms, Song said other countries would understand the dilemma facing the government.

"The government struggled to strike a balance between the international norms and custom concerning this kind of issue and the absolute premise that we have to save the people's lives," Song told journalists.

"The international community will understand it well," he said.

The South Korean government has come under some international criticism for negotiating with the rebels, who had earlier killed two of the hostages.

After freeing two others, they released the remaining 19 this week, ostensibly after Seoul said it would withdraw its small military presence in Afghanistan and ban any missionary activities in the country.

But those conditions were already planned for, raising suspicions of a backroom deal involving ransom.

Asked whether Seoul had paid any ransom, Song said tersely: "Nothing like that happened."

The South Korean Christian volunteers, part of a group of 23 missionaries kidnapped in southeast Afghanistan in mid-July, arrived in Dubai on a chartered United Nations plane overnight and were due to fly on to Seoul on Saturday.

The Taliban killed two male hostages, while two women released earlier as a goodwill gesture have already flown home.

Some of the released hostages on Friday told of how they lived in constant fear for their lives and were split up into small groups and shuttled around the Afghan countryside to avoid detection.

One Taliban member would tend to a farm by day and then grab a rifle and stand guard over hostages at night.

The kidnapping was the largest in the resurgent Taliban campaign against foreign forces since US-led troops ousted the Islamists from power in 2001. *Reuters, AFP*

RELEASED South Korean hostages in Muslim attire wait for a flight to Dubai at Kabul Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Aug. 31. Nineteen South Koreans freed by Taliban kidnappers were on their way home on Friday as their government denied allegations that it paid a ransom to end the six-week hostage standoff. AP

US Marine shot 5 unarmed Iraqis, court told

CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA—A Marine accused of murdering 17 Iraqis shot dead five unarmed men before asking a fellow soldier to help cover up the killings, a court heard here Friday.

Lance Corporal Sanick DeLa Cruz said he saw Sergeant Frank Wuterich open fire on the five men, some of whom had their arms raised, shortly after a roadside bomb attack in the town of Haditha on Nov. 19, 2005.

Prosecutors say Wuterich led Marines on a killing spree in Haditha that left 24 Iraqis dead in retaliation for the bomb attack which claimed the life of a popular comrade. The preliminary hearing at the Marines' Camp Pendleton base will determine whether Wuterich will face a court martial for the killings.

DeLa Cruz, who was one of four Marines initially charged with murder before being granted immunity in exchange for his testimony, said Wuterich shot five men standing next to a car parked at the side of the road near the bomb site.

"They were just standing there, some with their hands interlocked ... Then I saw one of the men drop to the ground," DeLa Cruz said.

"I heard some pops—pop, pop, pop. I looked around and saw Sergeant Wuterich kneeling with his gun and shooting in their direction."

DeLa Cruz himself then fired more rounds into the pile of dead bodies before Wuterich methodically moved through the corpses shooting each one again.

"He went to each Iraqi male and shot at them one-by-one," DeLa Cruz said.

Hours after the bloodshed, Wuterich sought out DeLa Cruz and told him to lie to investigators if he was questioned over the deaths.

"He told me that if anybody asks about those five Iraqis to say they were running away and the Iraqi army shot them," DeLa Cruz said.

Wuterich also urged DeLa Cruz to lie about the deaths on three further occasions, DeLa Cruz added, saying he had gone along with the plan.

"I didn't want our company to get in trouble," he said.

Under cross-examination from Lieutenant Colonel Colby Vokey, DeLa Cruz denied being responsible for firing the first shots at the five Iraqis.

"You didn't fire the first shots?" Vokey asked.

"No, sir," DeLa Cruz replied.

But DeLa Cruz admitted urinating on one of the bodies of the dead men.

"I know it was wrong but at that time my emotions took over," he said.

"I wasn't really thinking right. That's what made me do it. And I thought the men were guilty because Sergeant Wuterich had shot them."

Earlier, DeLa Cruz recounted a conversation he had with Wuterich roughly a week before the killings, shortly after his group of Marines had been informed that a comrade had been injured in another roadside bombing.

"Everybody was upset," DeLa Cruz said. "I was with Sergeant Wuterich and he made a comment, 'If we ever get hit again, we shoot and kill everybody in that area to teach them a lesson."

The Haditha killings are the most serious allegations of war crimes leveled at US troops since the invasion to topple Saddam Hussein in 2003.

Defense lawyers say Wuterich followed established combat zone rules of engagement in the aftermath of the bombing.

A total of eight Marines were initially charged in connection with the Haditha deaths.

Four were charged with murder while four senior officers were accused of failing to properly investigate the killings.

Of the four Marines charged with murder, two, including DeLa Cruz, have since had charges withdrawn, while allegations against a third are also expected to be dismissed. *AFP*

AGRICULTURE Minister Takehiko Endo bows his head to apologize before the press in Tokyo on Sept. 1. AFP

Another Japan minister linked to scandal

TOKYO—JAPAN'S AGRICULTURE minister apologized on Saturday for illegal dealings at a farmers' aid association that he heads but said he would not resign from Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's new cabinet.

In a news conference, Takehiko Endo admitted to learning more than three years ago that the organization had illegally received 1.15 million yen ($9,900) from the state, but he had neglected to inform Abe about it before his appointment on Monday.

The group, in Endo's constituency in northern Japan, has not returned the money to state coffers.

The farm minister's post has recently come under intense scrutiny. Endo's predecessor was sacked over reports of discrepancies in his political funding records. The previous incumbent committed suicide after a separate scandal.

Speaking to reporters in Izu, eastern Japan, Abe urged Endo to clarify the issue for the public, according to Kyodo news.

"The management of funds to aid farmers should be fair," Kyodo quoted Abe as saying. Endo "should clearly respond to questions and suspicions," he added.

Abe had come under fire for defending scandal-tainted ministers in his previous cabinet, which lost four ministers to gaffes and corruption, including one through suicide.

The latest misdeed, reported by the Asahi newspaper on Saturday, could deal a fresh blow to Abe, who was hoping that his reshuffled team would win him a clean start after his coalition suffered a crushing defeat in an upper house election in July.

A poll by the Nikkei financial daily earlier this week had shown public support for his cabinet up 13 points from late July, to 41 percent.

On Friday, Endo apologized for receiving a donation of 50,000 yen ($430) from a livestock dealers' group that accepts state subsidies from an affiliate of his ministry. *Reuters*

Senator in gay sting mess to resign, say Republicans

BOISE, IDAHO—IDAHO REPUBLICAN Sen. Larry Craig's decision to quit spares his party the embarrassment of an indefinitely prolonged scandal following his arrest during a sex sting in a Minneapolis airport bathroom.

Craig will announce his resignation, effective Sept. 30, at a news conference in Boise on Saturday morning, Republican Party officials in Idaho and Washington told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Craig, 62, has represented Idaho in Congress for more than a quarter-century and was up for reelection next year.

Still, opting to wait a month before officially bowing out raises questions of what Craig hopes to accomplish in Washington once the post-Labor Day session begins.

Word of the resignation came four days after disclosure that Craig had pleaded guilty to a reduced misdemeanor charge arising out of his June 11 arrest during a lewd-conduct investigation at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.

Craig's regional director in Boise, Will Hart, declined to say if the senator would appear in Senate chambers Tuesday. Craig, should he show up, could continue to be a liability for his party as it tries to shed negative publicity, said Jasper LiCalzi, a professor of political economy at Albertson College of Idaho in Caldwell.

"If he's trying to walk into the Senate chamber, everybody is going to be following him," LiCalzi said. "I've been surprised by everything—this is one more."

The three-term Republican senator had maintained he did nothing wrong—except for making the guilty plea without consulting a lawyer. But he found almost no support among Republicans in his home state or Washington.

Although several Republicans familiar with internal deliberations said Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter favored Lt. Gov. Jim Risch as a replacement, both Otter aides and Risch said no decision had been made.

"I have not been promised the job of US senator, nor has there even been a hint that the governor would appoint me to that position," Risch said. "At this point in time, that discussion is very premature."

Mark Warbis, a spokesperson for Otter, said the governor would not comment until he hears from Craig.

Craig has been out of public view since Tuesday, when he declared defiantly at a Boise news conference: "I am not gay. I never have been gay."

Republican lawmakers stripped Craig of leadership posts Wednesday, a day after calling for an investigation of Craig's actions by the Senate Ethics Committee. *AP*

DINA Matos McGreevey is shown in this May 1 photo in Springfield, N.J. Perhaps no one knows better how Suzanne Craig, the wife of Sen. Larry Craig, felt as he insisted he is not gay despite his guilty plea in a police sex sting. Three years ago, Matos McGreevey stood by her husband, then-New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevey, as he announced he was "a gay American." AP

WorldBriefs

WHO probes unknown, deadly illness in Congo

GENEVA—The World Health Organization said on Saturday it was investigating "an outbreak of an unknown illness with a high mortality rate" in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. "The clinical features in the majority of cases include fever, headache, diarrhea or colicky abdominal pain, and vomiting," the United Nations agency said in a statement. The WHO said it was not clear how many people had died or the total number afflicted with the illness, though more than half of cases had involved children under the age of 10. Experts from the WHO as well as Congo's provincial and national health services were in the field and had taken clinical samples for laboratory testing, the WHO said. It said the cause of the illness was still unknown. *Reuters*

Indian woman hurt as Nokia phone battery explodes

KOLKATA, India—A pregnant woman suffered burns in eastern India after the battery of her Nokia mobile phone exploded minutes after she put the handset on charge, police said Saturday. The Finnish phone maker warned last month in front-page advertisements in leading Indian dailies that some of its batteries were overheating after around 100 such incidents were reported globally. The battery that exploded was, however, from the firm's BL-D3 series, and not from BL-5C that Nokia recalled a month ago, police said. *AFP*

Illegal immigrant notices cannot go out yet—US judge

SAN FRANCISCO—The federal government cannot start sending out letters to employers next week containing notification of more serious penalties for knowingly hiring illegal immigrants, a federal judge ruled. Ruling on a lawsuit by the nation's largest federation of labor unions against the US government, US District Judge Maxine Chesney granted a temporary restraining order prohibiting the so-called "no-match" letters from going out as planned starting Tuesday. The lawsuit, filed by the AFL-CIO labor federation this week, claims that new Department of Homeland Security rules outlined in accompanying letters threaten to violate workers' rights and unfairly burden employers. Chesney said the court needs "breathing room" before making any decision on the legality of new penalties aimed at cracking down on the hiring of illegal immigrants. *AP*

Malnutrition in Darfur reaching emergency levels

UNITED NATIONS—Malnutrition is on the rise in Darfur as a surge in violence prevents aid workers from reaching more people in need, a senior UN official said. Eighteen spot surveys by UN agencies and independent humanitarian groups in three Darfur provinces indicated the emergency threshold of 15 per cent of the population suffering from malnutrition had increased to more than 17 percent in some areas, the UN deputy emergency relief coordinator, Margareta Wahlstrom, said on Friday. Some of the malnutrition is attributed to lack of water and sanitation conditions as well as changing weather in Sudan's western province where African rebels rose up against the Arab-dominated central government four years ago, accusing it of neglect. Wahlstrom said the number of people forced to flee their homes was also a major factor. *Reuters*

Thai wife at large with husband's severed penis

BANGKOK—A 35-year-old Thai woman was at large with her husband's penis Saturday after discovering the man's unfaithfulness, police said. Pornbun Sinthusin came home late Friday in Bangkok and found her 34-year-old husband Ploeng Plaekratoke in bed with another woman, said Lieutenant Colonel Kornwat Hunpradit. Pornbun later gave him several beers before cutting off his penis with "a sharp object," Kornwat said, adding that the husband was in intensive care. "We suspect she took both her weapon and her husband's penis because we cannot find the penis in their apartment. We even checked a toilet but she did not dump it there," Kornwat said. *AFP*

GOING BEYOND MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS, THE LEADER NOW BRINGS YOU MORE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE

SMART

COMMUNICATIONS • ENTERTAINMENT • INFORMATION • TRANSACTIONS

Voice Calls • SMS • MMS • SMART Link
Video Calls • Voicetext • International
Roaming • Textmail • Group Text • IDD

myTV • C-Me • JAVA Games • Videotones • Startxt
Virtual Friends • Caller Ringtunes • Videoke • Starcaller
Truetones • Full Track Music • Cinema Club

SMART BRO • Decode • Person Finder • Headlines
ForEx Rates • Traffic Updates • Weather News
Sports News • Hi-Speed Internet • Infinity Concierge

SMART Padala • SMART Money
Mobile Banking • Mobile Coupons
Prepaid Reloading • Bills Payment

THE POWER TO LEAD

Sunday SPORTS

...lendres Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa Website: www.inquirer.net/sports
...t name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

MARK Fampulme of the UE Red Warriors goes eyeball to eyeball against Marlon Adolfo of the FEU Tamaraws. RYAN LIM

Lascuña a title threat anew in Brunei /A27

Warriors two off title slot; Eagles score

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
2 p.m.—Univ. of Phils. vs Santo Tomas
4 p.m.—La Salle vs National U

By Jasmine W. Payo

FOR 37 MINUTES, IT LOOKED LIKE THE Far Eastern Tamaraws had a chance to steal the game. But the University of the East Warriors again had all the right answers in the final stretch.

Mark Borboran provided the crucial baskets in the closing minutes as the unbeaten Warriors scored a 79-72 victory over the Tamaraws and extend their winning run to 12 games in the UAAP men's basketball competition yesterday at the Cuneta Astrodome.

The Warriors banked on a 7-0 spurt—a Borboran three-point play book-ended by a James Martinez drive and a Jorel Cañizares turnaround jumper—to turn a slim 69-67 lead to a 76-67 advantage with 1:37 minutes left.

Now the Warriors, who stared at their biggest deficit this season, 15-25, in the second quarter, only need to hurdle the winless University of the Philippines and the second-running La Salle Green Archers to earn an outright Finals berth.

Borboran finished with a career-high 23 points, including three triples at the same left corner spot, to lead the Warriors.

While the Tamaraws dropped to fifth at 6-6, the Ateneo Blue Eagles boosted their Final Four bid by dispatching the Adamson Falcons with an 81-68 rout to keep solo third at 7-4.

WARRIORS/ A27

Cell Pawnshop
"The first cellphone pawnshop in the country"
NOW OPEN FOR FRANCHISE!!!
Now with over 60 branches nationwide.
Most lucrative and first of its kind business.
We Buy & Sell 2nd Hand Units
We also accept the following:
PS3 XBOX360 HANDYCAM PLASMA TV
LAPTOP IPOD VIDEO DIGICAM PROJECTOR
ADVANTAGES:
1. Having to own latest gadget/ cellphones while doing business at the same time.
2. Owning your own financial establishment while selling cellphones at the same time.
3. Having the items at half the price.
4. Worry free auctions to be purchased by the mother company whatever/whenever needed/a.k.a instant buyer.
5. Support of units limitless from Cell Pawnshop.
WE CATER TO THE FF:
WE BUY USED CELLPHONES / HIGH APPRAISAL
WE SELL BRAND NEW CELLPHONES & ACCESSORIES
WE REPAIR CELLPHONES
WANTED: SUPPLIER OF BRAND NEW CELLPHONES
Head office: GRANADA QUEZON CITY, 24 Granada St., Villa Ortigas II Valencia, Quezon City, Tel. no.: 725-0899; 721-0488; 722-0288; 414-6888; 411-7999; 414-4888 loc. 15, Fax: 725-0399
Regional office: LEON-KILAT CEBU, 10 Leon Kilat St., Pahina Central, Cebu City, Tel. no.: (032) 255-3699 (032) 255-5099, Cel. no.: 0922-3211665
LA TRINIDAD BENGUET, 104 Chua Huntay Bldg. Pico K-4 La Trinidad, Benguet, Tel. no.: (074) 422-7588 (074) 309-3388, Cel. no.: 0922-6627621
TUGUEGARAO, 26 Aguinaldo St, Tuguegarao City, Cagayan, Tel. no.: (078) 844-8699 (078) 844-8799, Cel no.: 0922-7523761 0922-7523759
CAGAYAN DE ORO, Cruz Taal Rizal St., Cagayan de Oro City, Tel. no.: (088) 856-6199 (088) 309-3788, Cel no.: 0922-7890999 0922-6826808
email: cellpawnshop_king@yahoo.com website: www.cellpawnshop.com

Everyone's getting
Sun Group Plans so get one now.
3 lines. 3 phones for only P999 a month!
750* free texts to other networks
Camera Phone
24/7 Call & Text Unlimited**
• Only one person needs to subscribe to get all the lines.***
• Choose any three from these handsets:
Sony Ericsson K310i, Nokia 2310, LG KG220, Philips S660, Nokia 2610
Visit The Sun Shop and get a postpaid line now!
When applying for your postpaid line, simply bring a valid I.D. and latest competitor bill equivalent to or of higher value than the plan being applied for. If competitor bill is not available, bring proof of billing and proof of income.
* When enrolled in 24/7 Call & Text Unlimited.
** For local Sun-to-Sun calls and texts only.
*** 24-month holding period.
YOUR CHOICE OF HANDSETS
Sony Ericsson K310i Camera Phone · Video Recording MP3 Player
Nokia 2310 Color Display with FM Radio
LG KG220 Camera Phone with multi-shot feature
Philips S660 Camera Phone MP3 Player
Nokia 2610 MMS E-mail Capable
Also available:
SUN GROUP PLAN 699
Your choice of handsets:
Nokia 1112
Philips S220
LG IG271
• Daylite Call & Text Unlimited** discounted at P233/subscriber monthly
• Plus 300 FREE texts
The Sun Shops: Metro Manila | Trinoma Mall | Greenhills Shopping Center | Shangri-la Plaza Mall | Robinsons Galleria | Robinsons Metroeast | Robinsons Pioneer | Burke Plaza | Robinsons Place Manila | SM Centerpoint | SM City Fairview | SM City Manila | SM City San Lazaro Park Square Makati | Festival Mall Filinvest | SM Bicutan | SM Mall of Asia | SM Megamall | SM Southmall | North Luzon | Robinsons Angeles | Robinsons Starmills Pampanga | SM Baguio | SM Clark | SM Marilao | SM North Edsa | SM Valenzuela South Luzon | Robinsons Place Dasmariñas | Robinsons Imus | Robinsons Lipa | Robinsons Sta. Rosa | SM Bacoor | SM Batangas | SM Lucena | SM Molino | Visayas | Ayala Center Cebu | Robinsons Place Bacolod | Robinsons Place Cebu Robinsons Place Iloilo | SM City Cebu | Mindanao | Gaisano Davao | Robinsons Cagayan de Oro | SM City Davao
Hotline: 395-8000 www.suncellular.com.ph
SUN CELLULAR
Better network, better value.

GUINNESS FINALS

Corteza in semis; Alcano falls

LEE Vann Corteza: Sweet revenge

FILIPINO LEE VANN CORTEZA trounced Taiwanese Chang Jung-lin, 9-3, and Filipino-Malaysian Ibrahim Bin Amir, 9-5, yesterday to barge into the semifinals of the Guinness 9-ball Tour Grand Finals at the Grand Ballroom of the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Bali, Indonesia.

It was sweet revenge for Corteza, the 28-year-old top player of Negros Billiard Stable (NBS), who lost to the Taiwanese in their title clash in the inaugural leg in Jakarta last April.

Corteza totes a 3-1 win-loss card in Group B, preventing what could have been an all-Taiwanese semis cast.

Corteza, who started with a 9-1 win over Singapore's Bernard Tey, but lost to former world 9-ball champion Taiwan's Chao Fong-pao late Friday, is slated to face Taiwanese Wu Chia-ching in today's semis.

The other semifinal tussle pits Order of Merit leader Yang Ching-shun against countryman Chang Jung-lin.

Wu humbled Ronato Alcano, 9-1, to send the current WPA 9-ball and WPA 8-ball champion packing home.

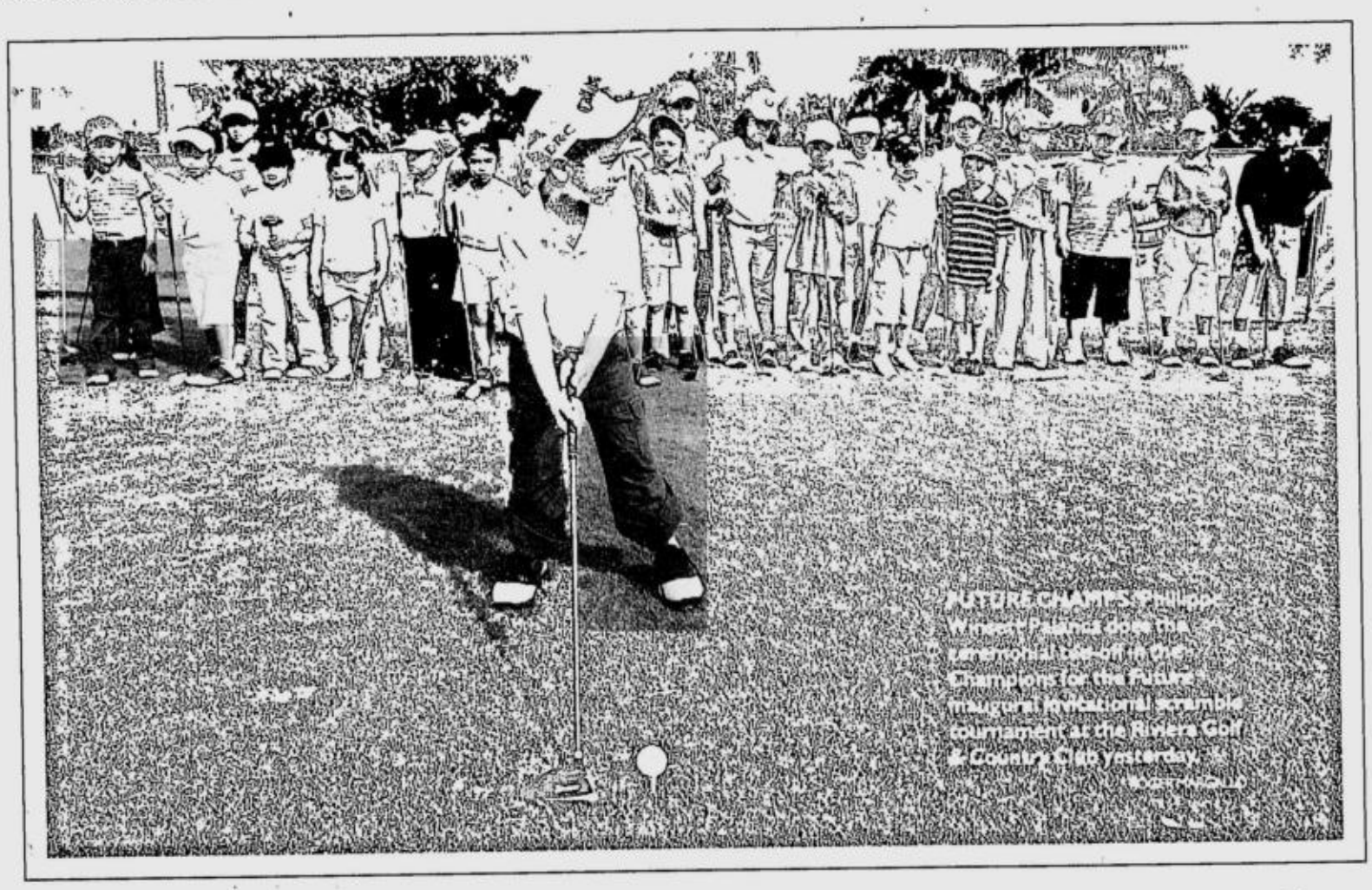
The 34-year-old Alcano scored a 9-7 victory over Indon Ricky Yang, for a 1-2 win-loss card in Group A.

The semifinals will be a race-to-11 knockout affair. The semis winners then play for the title and the $36,000 championship prize.

The top 10 players of the Guinness Tour will also qualify for the 2007 WPA World 9-Ball Championship in Manila on Nov. 3 to 11.

The Guinness 9-ball Tour is sanctioned by the Asian Pocket Billiard Union (APBU) and organized by ESPN Star Sports' Event Management Group (EMG).

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor



Gabica takes crack at Brunei 9-ball tilt

GABICA LYN RILLON

DOHA ASIAN GAMES 9-ball gold medalist Antonio Gabica and double world champion Ronato Alcano will carry the country's colors in the Brunei 9-Ball Invitational Cup 2007 from Sept. 7-8 at the Indoor Stadium in Berakas.

The 35-year-old Gabica and Alcano will leave the country on Sept. 6 for the annual event featuring some of the world's best cue masters.

"I will try my best to bring honor to our country just like what I did in last year's Asiad," said Gabica in Filipino. Gabica, a stalwart of Bugsy Promotion, is aiming to duplicate his victory in the 2007 Cebu 9-Ball Challenge.

The tournament offers $10,000 to the champion.

Other cue artists invited include Taiwanese Wu Chia-ching and Chang Jung-ling, Malaysian Ibrahim Bin Amir, Indonesian Ricky Yang titlist, Singaporean Bernard Tey and Vietnamese Luong Chi Dung.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

Roach deputies find Cebu gym unsafe

By Recah Trinidad

LOS ANGELES—THERE WAS NO EVIDENT alarm but reports that Manny Pacquiao has gone down with the flu yesterday sent people at the Wild Card gym here wondering why the Filipino boxing superstar should take unnecessary risks in training at home for his monumental rematch against Mexican Marco Antonio Barrera on Oct. 6.

Pacquiao was forced to skip sparring on Friday after being downed by the flu virus, but he should be back on the road Monday, according to trainer Freddie Roach.

Roach on Tuesday threatened to bolt Pacquiao's training site in Cebu City due to the failure of gym managers to control fanatical spectators.

Although Roach had earlier admitted they were already a week behind schedule, the famous trainer assured media men there should be no problem despite the latest hitch.

ROACH JESS YUSON

But Ola Afolabi, a Roach deputy who was tipped to take over as Pacquiao's conditioning coach, yesterday told the Inquirer there's always the danger of new problems cropping up.

"First, there was the unruly crowd, now the flu, this is the reason I said Manny should be here instead of there," Afolabi, a former welterweight pro, explained.

One of Pacquiao's two Mexican sparmates has reportedly also contracted the flu virus, said to be prevalent in the Cebu area.

"The weather here may be terribly hot now, but it's at least constant, unlike out there," he added.

Eric Brown, another Roach deputy, was absent yesterday but he earlier said it was ridiculous that Pacquiao continued to take risks training in the Philippines when it has been proven that Wild Card was perfect for him.

Two Filipino trainers here, who requested anonymity, agreed with the observations of Roach's two deputies, adding they would not be surprised if Pacquiao returns here earlier than the original Sept. 22 schedule.

Actually, Roach hinted the other day that Pacquiao, an indefatigable hard worker, could be a little ahead in conditioning.

But although Roach would not say how many hours they had squandered with Pacquiao's illness, the sorry development cannot escape the Barrera camp where everything is reported to be going smoothly.

"Manny could be stalled four or five days at most," Afolabi said.

However, the rangy former pro from Nigeria said Pacquiao should be able to catch up and "he would be OK if he comes back here early."

DLSZ, CKS College notch victory No. 3

DE LA SALLE ZOBEL AND Chiang Kai Shek College routed their respective opponents yesterday to stay on top with their third straight wins in the 38th WNCAA junior basketball tournament at the SSC gym.

Miriam College, last season's midget and junior champion, also won both assignments yesterday.

DLSZ got 20 points each from Dior Ysabel Trinidad, Princess Marie Trinidad and Katrina Santos to hand St. Francis of Assisi College its second loss in as many games, 126-15.

Karen Bernice Columna unloaded 27 markers to power CKSC past St. Stephen's High School, 72-46.

Miriam's midgets team debuted with a 31-17 victory over DLSZ while its juniors squad bucked the pro-St. Scholastica's College crowd to prevail, 65-42, in the last game.

The junior MC Katipuneras, who had 12 points apiece from Freesia Muòez and Patricia Garvida, occupy third place at 2-1.

Mighty Filter Kings win

THE MIGHTY FILTER KINGS outplayed Bulacan All-Star right from the start en route to an 85-63 rout during the Bulacan State Foundation Day at the BSU gym in Bulacan recently.

With Terrence Tang clicking from the outside and Dexter Lee, Clark Torrente and Howard Evangelista providing the needed firepower inside the paint, the Mighty Filter Kings practically decided the game early in the final half as they built a 25-point edge.

The red-hot Tang knocked in a game-high 17 points while Lee and Evangelista chipped in 12 points each.

The exhibition match was organized by BSU and supported by Mighty Sports Association,

Former UAAP stars Jean Alabanza of Ateneo and Edrick Ferrer of UP also did their share for Mighty.

Former PBL player and Jose Rizal University star Macoy Fajardo paced BSU with 10.

Martinez loses, settles for 4th

FILIPINO INTERNATIONAL MASTER Rolly Martinez yielded to Russian Grandmaster Vladimir Burmakin in the ninth round and settled for fourth place in the 27th International Chess Festival in Bratto, Italy, yesterday.

Martinez lost after 40 moves of the Nimzo Indian Defense and was stuck at 6.5 points, dropping into a tie for 3rd to 8th places with GM Vladimir Epishin of Russia, GM Sergei Tiviakov (Netherlands), Jacob Aagaard (Scotland) and GM Alberto David (Luxembourg).

If any consolation, the Milan-based Martinez got his first GM result and 600 euros.

Burmakin took the title and the 1,500 euros that goes with it by edging Croatian GM Miso Cebalo in the tie break, 46.5-44.5 points. They tallied 7.0 points apiece in nine outings.

Epishin, who drew with German GM Igor Khenkin, took third with a better tie break of 49 points than Martinez's 47.

Another Filipino entry, IM Roland Salvador, drew with IM Martha Fierro Baquero of Ecuador to finished with 5.5 points along with 16 others in the event that drew 120 players.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

Benitez captures two Asian Karting crowns

JAVI Benitez displays his trophies for winning both the ROK Junior and the Formula 125 Juniors Open in the Indonesian leg of the 2007 Asian Karting Open Championship.

JAKARTA—JAVI BENITEZ of Jet Racing bagged two titles in the third leg of the 2007 Asian Karting Open Championship recently at the Sentul International Circuit here.

The 12-year-old Benitez, a Grade 6 student of Xavier School, topped both the ROK Junior and the Formula 125 Juniors crown against veteran Malaysian Mitchell Gilbert and Indonesian pride and reigning Asian Juniors champion Rio Haryanto.

Tire management and strategy proved to be the key factors for Benitez.

Jet Racing head coach Elson Carpio's decision to use a new set of tires in the Pre-Final turned out to be pivotal.

The gamble paid off as Javi roared his way in front to gain the pole position for the Final race, compared to Gilbert who slipped to 14th using worn out tires.

Gilbert checked in second in the ROK Junior division with Philippine bets Juha Turalba and Jet Racing teammate Vencer John Suba checking in third and fourth.

The Philippines made it a 1-2-3 finish in the Formula 125 Juniors Open with Turalba and Suba finishing behind Benitez.

SPORTSWATCH

RP snares skeet gold in Kuala Lumpur

KUALA LUMPUR—LED BY BRIAN ROSARIO, THE PHILIPPINES ADDED another gold to its collection in the 13th Southeast Asian Shooting Association championships recently by ruling the skeet team event at the Subang Range here. The Filipinos, also including Patricio Bernardo and Gabriel Tong, scored a total of 323 points to nip Malaysia by two and whip Thailand by 19.

Ocean Fresh Lyceum sweeps first round

OCEAN FRESH LYCEUM LEANED ON THE CLUTCH SHOOTING OF CHICO Lanete and Nestor David to nip Polymaster Industrial Corporation, 74-70, and stay unbeaten in the 2007 PICAA second conference commissioners cup basketball tournament at the Lyceum gym. Ocean Fresh of coach Bonnie Tan also beat CKP-168, Rusty Lopez, Creative Cellphone and Coor's Light Beer.

Asian Clay Shooting tourney fires off Oct. 25

THE COUNTRY'S PREMIER SHOOTERS test their mettle against Asia's cream of the crop when the 2007 Asian Clay Shooting Championship fires off on Oct. 25 at the PNSA-PSC Clay Target Shooting Range in Bocor, Muntinlupa City.

Gay Corral, chair of the Organizing Committee said 10 countries have confirmed their participation in the event which will run until Oct. 30.

Apart from the Philippines, India, Japan, China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Kuwait and other Southeast Asian countries will also be competing in the event which the Philippines last hosted in 2000 in Vigan, Ilocos Sur.

"This is indeed a big honor for us to be chosen as host of this tournament," said Corral, also the treasurer of the Philippine National Shooting Association. "Not only because we have world-class shooters, but because we also have a modern facility in Muntinlupa that can compare with the best in Asia."

The Philippines will have 14 entries at the most, led by the trio of Olympian Jethro Dionisio, Eric Ang and Raul Ramon Arambulo,

Events on tap in the tournament are trap, double trap and skeet.

Andrew Poblete, co-chair of the Organizing Committee, and one of the participants in the tournament organized by the PNSA in cooperation with Waffle Marketing, said Filipino shooters will do their best to win their share of gold medals.

Waffle Marketing president Auty Villarama said prospective sponsors can still sign up. For inquiries, contact 8945425.

READY TO SHOOT. Officials and participants of the 2007 Asian Clay Shooting Championship gather before the tournament. From left are Auty Villarama, clay shooter Raul Arambolo; Gary Corrales, Andrew Poblete, Jethro Dionisio and clay shooters Jotle Viray and Itos Carag.

RACING

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Lady Line/Bullet Day (2), Mojito (6), Paramount (10), My Happiness (5), Rain Dancer (9)
Race 2—(Qrt/Tri)—Kimagure (5), Long Hitter (1), Showman/Winner Take All (4), Selectes (2)
Race 3—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Hussy (5), Copper Dew (7), Aly Dancer (2), Legendary (9), Flying Jolie (3)
Race 4—(Qrt/Tri)—Sugar Daddy (7), Campaign Warrior (6), Mikaela's Music (1), Rose N Fire (8)
Race 5—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—La Tienne (8), Regal Boom (9), Tellmenolies (3), Deputy Stravinsky (5), Armidale (4)
Race 6—(Qrt/Tri)—Victory Ranger (4), Run Like D'Wind (5), Znar (2), King Foppy (3)
Race 7—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Special Edition (9), Air Force One (8), Ziraz (2), Mamaya (6), Tereshkova/Miss Fantastic (3), Please Do (5)
Race 8—Honor Rose (4), Unopposed (1)
Race 9—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Blue Sheikh (1), Speed Admiral (10), Bloodline (3), Violeta's Secret/Just A Moment (6), Carbon Copy (9), American Inggo (7)
Race 10—(Qrt/Tri)—Sir Benjo (6), Alam Mo Na Yan (5), Princess Sophia (3), Refreshing (1)
Race 11—(Qrt/Tri)—Macho Man (4), Danehill Dave (2), Sweet Talk (1), Jigsaw Star (7)
Race 12—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Raven (5), King Aljhun (2), Graceful Conqueror (1), Striking Thunder (3), Kate Alessandra (9)
Race 13—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Ocean Cookie (10), Lord Biran (9), Interceptor (6), Real Tough (3), Golden Harry (5), House Of Riches (1)

Ardina shoots 69; wows Europe Tour pros

DOTTIE ARDINA PUT IN A SOLID round that impressed the pros on the Ladies European Tour as she came away with a bogey-free two-under 69 to trail American Kris Lindstrom by four at the start of the Finnair Masters at the Helsinki Golf Club in Helsinki, Finland Friday.

Ardina, a jungolfer playing in a ladies pro circuit, knocked down birdies on Nos. 3 and 17 while saving pars in three times that she went out of regulation for a 33-36 card that put the youngest player in the fold in joint 11th with England's Felicity Johnson.

It was indeed an impressive start by the 13-year-old Ardina, considering that she was coming off a forgettable fourth to last finish in last week's SAS Masters in Norway, the first of two Euro Tour events she was invited to play.

"The pros were really amazed of her swing, power and poise," said swing coach Cassius Casas in Filipino. "For a 13-year-old, they said she's sure to make it big in the future."

With her solid start, Ardina is on track to make the 36-hole cut and contend for top honors against the circuit's veteran campaigners in the 54-hole tournament.

They include Lindstrom, who equaled her best ever score on the tour—a six-under-par 65 at the tournament where she posted a career best finish of tied for third in 2006.

Lindstrom is one stroke clear of Sweden's Åsa Gottmo, Germany's Martina Eberl and defending champion Virginie Lagoutte-Clement of France, who all shot 66s. English teenager Kiran Matharu posted a four-under 67 for fifth.

From Europe, Ardina will fly to the US to pursue a study grant from ICTSI at the Pendleton Academy in Florida where she will be joined by Cyna Rodriguez, Mia Piccio and Marcel Puyat.

Mikee's SEAG wish list

IN HUDDLE

Beth Celis

TWO TEAMS from the Philippines are currently in Brunei participating in the Brunei Cup, previously known as the Sultan's Cup.

Using the tournament as a tune-up for the 2007-2008 PBA season, the Sta. Lucia Realtors have swept all their games so far, beating the Australians, the New Zealanders of Singapore, LG of Korea, which has two American imports and Harbour Centre-RP .

The Jordanians remained winless after the Realtors drubbed them in overtime Friday night, earning a ticket to the knockout semifinal round.

A few hours before the game against Jordan, I asked SLR governor and team manager Buddy Encarnado, who joined his team in Brunei, if we should be ready to roll out the red carpet and welcome them with a ticker tape parade upon their return.

"*Malayo pa*. Although we've won all our games so far and we're the only team that has defeated the Koreans, I'm worried about the Australians, who are very tall. They have a 6-11 and a 6-10 player. *Takot ako sa* matchup *sa ilalim*, *wala pa naman si* Kelly (Williams)," Buddy said, hours before the game against Jordan.

* * *

For Harbour Centre-RP, the Brunei stint will serve as a tryout to determine which players deserve to be in the national team.

"We could have included imports in the team but that will defeat the purpose," said RP team manager Mikee Romero, who hopes to be able to send the nationals to at least three more overseas tournaments for tune-up before the SEA Games.

Mikee said he has his own wish list for the national team and it is a long one.

Here it is in no particular order: Beau Belga, Jason Castro, Jonathan Fernandez, Chad Alonzo, Alan Salangsang, Ato Morano, Christian Coronel, Dennis Daa, Erick Rodriguez, Jeff Chan, Gabe Norwood, Jervy Cruz, Rico Maierhofer, Pong Escobal," hopefully we can borrow PBA players like Ranidel de Ocampo, Arwind Santos, Wynne Arboleda, and Marvin Cruz."

"We need a strong 12-man team that's fast, can shoot and is physical on defense," said Mikee.

* * *

I'm not sure if the PBA board will be ready with a choice after the meeting in Macau, China this September, but PBA chairman Tony Chua said the selection of a commissioner will be topmost in the agenda when the governors convene for the very first time under his term.

The board will most likely also study the merits of turning the league into a corporation, as recommended by past chair Ricky Vargas of Talk 'N Text.

If this happens, the PBA will hire a president or CEO, as well as a commissioner which, to me is a good idea, since there will be check and balance and no single entity will have absolute power over the league.

I tried to call Ricky to inquire about the pros and cons of turning the league into a corporation, but as of presstime, he still has not returned my call. The Talk 'N Text governor has just returned from a two-week business trip to the United States.

The candidates' list for the post of PBA commissioner has apparently been pruned down to three. Lately, I've been hearing only three names being mentioned and seriously considered for the position.

Lascuña a title threat again in Brunei golf

DENIED BY HIS OWN COMPATRIOT LAST week, Antonio Lascuña might just become another Filipino winner of the Asian Tour today.

Lascuña shot a bogey-free five-under-par 66 again yesterday and charged into contention for his first-ever Asian Tour title after three rounds of the Brunei Open at the Empire Hotel Country Club course in Brunei.

After hitting the turn at two under, the unflappable Filipino chipped in for birdie on 10, and birdied both the par-3 holes on the inward nine from 20 and five feet, respectively, to finish with an 11-under par aggregate of 202 for 54 holes like Lu Wen-teh of Taiwan.

Lascuña and Lu, who also shot a 66, trailed Adam Le Vesconte of Australia, the former Philippine Open champion, by four strokes.

Le Vesconte birdied two of his last three holes for a 68 and a 198 aggregate.

Artemio Murakami, winner of last week's Brunei Open over Lascuña and Scotland's Simon Yates, slid to a share of 32nd after a 72.

Juvic Pagunsan, last year's Asian Tour Rookie of the Year, fell to a tie for 39th after a 74 with Mars Pucay who carded a 70.

"My concentration was good and I drove the ball solidly again," said Lascuña. "I'm enjoying my golf and that's what I plan to do tomorrow. I feel comfortable on this course as my home course, Manila Southwoods, is also a Jack Nicklaus design."

"I don't want to start thinking of winning. All I want to do is to earn my Asian Tour card by remaining inside the top-60 of the UBS Order of Merit."

On a sun-kissed day, Le Vesconte, who led by three at the halfway stage after shooting a pair of 65s, parred his opening 10 holes before finally nailing his first birdie on the 11th.

With the chasing pack closing in on him, he drained a 25-foot birdie putt at the par three 16th before rolling in an eight-footer on the last to boost his lead.

It will be the second week in succession that the Aussie will play in the final group. At the Iskandar Johor Open in Malaysia, he faded on the last day to finish tied for 10th.

Le Vesconte will be eager to go all the way and add this title to his lone triumph at the 2005 RP Open. *Jong Arcano*

Leading third round scores:

198—Adam Le Vesconte (AUS) 65-65-68

202—Tony Lascuña (**PHI**) 70-66-66, Lu Wen-teh (TPE) 66-70-66

204—Lin Wen-tang (TPE) 65-68-71

205—Michael Wright (AUS) 68-67-70

206—Gavin Flint (AUS) 72-68-66, Scott Barr (AUS) 71-68-67

207—Scott Hend (AUS) 65-74-68, Panuwat Muenlek (THA) 67-70-70, Wang Ter-chang (TPE) 70-66-71, Gary Rusnak (USA) 67-68-72, Neven Basic (AUS) 66-68-73

208—Jochen Lupprian (GER) 71-69-68, Ashley Hall (AUS) 69-71-68, Taichiro Kiyota (JPN) 68-71-69, Martin Rominger (SUI) 68-70-70, Mark Brown (NZL) 65-73-70, David Gleeson (AUS) 72-64-72.

LASCUÑA: Victory within sight. PDI PHOTO

Lions' Menor collars Anta plum

WHEN SAN BEDA DOWNED LETran, 87-84, the other day to formally clinch the No. 1 spot in the Final Four, one of the players who delivered solid numbers for the Red Lions was third-year forward Ogie Menor.

Menor scored 21 points, including a layup that kept the Red Lions ahead, 82-77, while adding six rebounds and three assists.

For his heads-up play last Friday, Menor earned recognition as the NCAA Press Corps-Anta Player of the Week.

San Beda coach Frankie Lim was all praises for his versatile forward, who also had 15 points and four boards in a 96-79 win opposite Perpetual Help last Wednesday.

"He really gave us a big lift. With Yousif (Aljamal) out, Ogie was one of the players who really stepped up. He's really capable of leading this team," said Lim.

The Red Lions' win against the Knights assured them of the No. 1 spot in the semifinals as they finished the elimination phase with an 11-1 win-loss record.

Naascu tilt Final Four under way

GAMES TODAY (*Tanduay Gym, Quiapo*)
11 a.m.—UM vs AMA (Srs)
12:30 p.m.—STI vs San Sebastian Cavite (Srs)

STI AND UNIVERSITY OF MANILA, THE top two qualifiers after the elimination round, try to arrange a title showdown when they clash with separate rivals today in the Final Four of the National Athletics Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (Naascu) basketball tournament at the Tanduay gym.

The STI Olympians tangle with the San Sebastian Cavite Bay Cats in the main game at 12:30 p.m. after the 11 a.m. clash between the UM Hawks and the defending champion AMA Titans.

STI and UM not only are heavily favored but both are also armed with a twice-to-beat advantage as the top two semifinalists.

But the Olympians are still wary of the Bay Cats, who are standing in their way to a third straight championship appearance.

"It's hard to tell, because San Sebastian also has vast experience in other tournaments," said STI coach Vic Ycasiano. "But while I believe we have the edge in depth we will be coming out focused on the game."

Ycasiano said they will treat the game as if it's their last and not think of the twice-to-beat incentive they enjoy.

Forward Ramon Mabayo from Bagong Barrio, Caloocan and Bukidon pride point guard Dexter Micutuan will banner a powerhouse lineup that finished the eliminations with a 13-1 record. *Marc Anthony Reyes*

Warriors, Eagles score

From page A25

Another rookie took the spotlight as Nonoy Baclao, a 6-foot-4 forward from West Negros College, accounted for 14 points, seven rebounds and three of Ateneo's six blocks to tow the resurgent Eagles to their third straight victory.

The Eagles—who banked on a buzzer-beating shot by American freshman Kirk Long to nip defending champion Santo Tomas Tigers last Thursday—zoomed to an early double-figure lead, 20-8, in the first quarter.

Veterans Chris Tiu chipped in 13 points and six assists, while Ford Arao also logged in 13 markers.

When the Falcons closed in at 35-29, the Eagles wrapped up the first half with eight unanswered points for a 43-29 halftime advantage.

But coach Norman Black said he expects more from the Eagles, who still have a shot at the remaining twice-to-beat advantage in the Final Four.

"I'm happy with the win but we have to improve our level of play to be competitive down the stretch," said Black, citing the several turnovers his wards committed in the second half.

ATENEO'S Eric Salamat drives past Adamson's Leo Canuday. RYAN LIM

The Falcons, who had long bowed out of semifinal contention, dropped to a 1-10 record.

Elmer Espiritu came through for the Warriors defensively with two key blocks in the closing minutes to douse the Tamaraws' rally.

Paul Lee also helped the Warriors recover from 15-25 deficit by drilling nine of his 17 points in the second period to cut the margin at 27-28.

"We missed a lot of free throws, I think that was another turning point of the game," said coach Dindo Pumaren of the Warriors, who converted only 11 of 27 attempts.

The scores:

First Game

ATENEO 81—Baclao 14, Tiu 13, Arao 13, Laterre 11, Reyes 8, Salamat 6, Al-Hussainl 5, Nkemakolam 4, Escueta 4, Long 3, Monfort 0.

ADAMSON 68—Cabahug 22, Hugnatan 21, Alvarez 7,Margallo 5, Canuday 5, Olalia 2, Colina 2, Gorospe 2, Gonzalgo 2, Lozada 0, Cañada 0, Yambot 0, Santos 0.

Quarters: 25-10, 43-29, 57-48, 81-68

Second Game

UE 79—Borboran 23,Lee 17, Martinez 8, Cañizares 8, Arellano 7, Lingganay 4,Gregorio 4, Reyes 3, Espiritu 3, Llagas 2, Fampulme 0, Bandaying 0, Thiele 0.

FEU 72—Baracael 22, Cervantes 13, Barroca 10, Sanga 8, Allsbo 7, Adolfo 6, Cawaling 3, Knuttel 2, Fernandez 1, Abaring 0, Ramos 0, Cabagnot 0, Reyes 0.

Quarters: 13-15, 31-32, 53-51, 79-72

Sta. Lucia takes members golf tournament abroad

AFTER MAKING A HUGE IMPACT LOcally in its first seven editions, the Sta. Lucia Tour is going outside the country this year.

Organizers of the Sta. Lucia Tour bared yesterday that the country's long-running series for golf clubs flying the banner of the real estate giant is going to Bangkok, Thailand on Oct. 2-5.

About 200 members of eight exclusive clubs all over the Philippines are expected to play in the 36-hole tournament to be held at the championship Lam Lukka and Lakewood golf courses in the fringes of Bangkok.

Sta. Lucia is subsidizing a major portion of the cost of travel for the participants to make it affordable.

"We thought of doing something different this year and we felt that nothing is better than bringing our club members abroad," echoed Vicente Santos and Engr. Wini Gob, co-chair of the executive committee.

The tourney is tipped to become one of the biggest golf tournaments among Filipino players in foreign soil.

Members from Eagle Ridge, Orchard, Rancho Palos Verdes, Alta Vista, Lake Wood, Summit Point, Royale Tagaytay and Lake Caliraya Springs have already registered for the four-day, three-night sojourn in Bangkok.

Registration is extended up to the coming week.

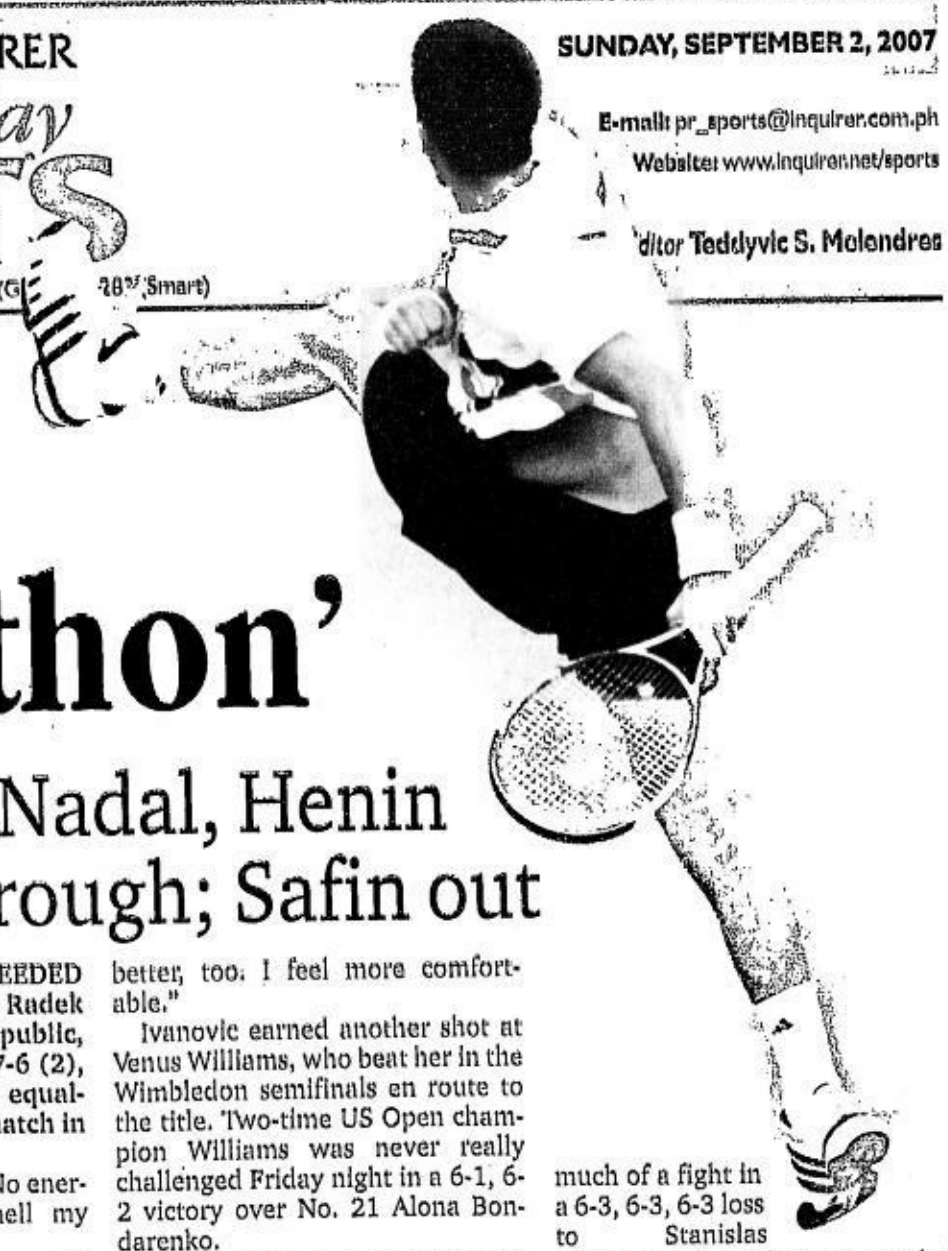
Players are requested to inquire from their sports and games offices regarding the tournament or call PSMG at 635-0010.

There will be team and individual awards to be disputed aside from the usual raffle and hole-in-one prizes. In the two-man team event , the participating teams will be equally divided into three groups with Group 1 for the handicap range of 10 to 15.9, Group 2 for 16-26.9 and Group 3 for 27 and above.

Individual entries, meanwhile, will fall into championship if their handicaps are from 0 to 3.9, Class A 4-8.2, Class B 8.3-13.4, Class C 13.5-17.8 and Class F 17.9-27.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday SPORTS
Text us your feedback: Inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (G[illegible] 28[illegible] Smart)
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/sports
Editor Teddyvic S. Molendres

Djokovic outlasts Stepanek in 'marathon'



Favorites Nadal, Henin breeze through; Safin out

NEW YORK—THIRD-SEEDED Novak Djokovic outlasted Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (5), 7-5, 5-7, 7-6 (2), Friday, prevailing in the equal-longest US Open singles match in the fifth-set tiebreak era.

"I am totally exhausted. No energy," Djokovic said. "I smell my shoes—they are so stinky."

They played 63 games, 356 points and played 4 hours, 44 minutes, drawing several standing ovations along the way.

"I'm doing fine," Stepanek said, "but I lost."

It was another super day for Djokovic's Serbia, too, with No. 3 Jelena Jankovic and No. 5 Ana Ivanovic reaching the women's fourth round.

Another Serb, Janko Tipsarevic, though, stopped because of an injured rib muscle while losing, 6-2, 6-3, 3-2, against No. 2 Rafael Nadal.

Bothersome knees

The Spaniard's bothersome knees were not a problem in the second round the way they were in the first.

"I'm not 100 percent yet but so much better," Nadal said. "I play better, too. I feel more comfortable."

Ivanovic earned another shot at Venus Williams, who beat her in the Wimbledon semifinals en route to the title. Two-time US Open champion Williams was never really challenged Friday night in a 6-1, 6-2 victory over No. 21 Alona Bondarenko.

Serena Williams took a while to find her rhythm before downing No. 27 Vera Zvonareva of Russia, 6-4, 7-6 (4). The two-time Open champion clinched it on her fourth match point in the tiebreaker.

Harry Potter

Serena Williams was bothered by the chair umpire's insistence that she put away a little notebook with handwritten reminders.

"I was like, 'Well, it's not like I'm Harry Potter, and my dad can magically give me notes to read,'" she said. "It's something that I write myself. Just little things."

Her opponent will be Wimbledon runner-up Marion Bartoli, while No. 1 Justine Henin next plays No. 15 Dinara Safina, who beat Ahsha Rolle of the United States, 6-4, 6-3.

Safina's older brother, the 25th-seeded Marat Safin, didn't put up much of a fight in a 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 loss to Stanislas Wawrinka. Safin then was reminded that Pete Sampras predicted the Russian would spend many years at No. 1 after winning the 2000 US Open.

Erring genius, frozen Fish

"Even the geniuses make mistakes," Safin said.

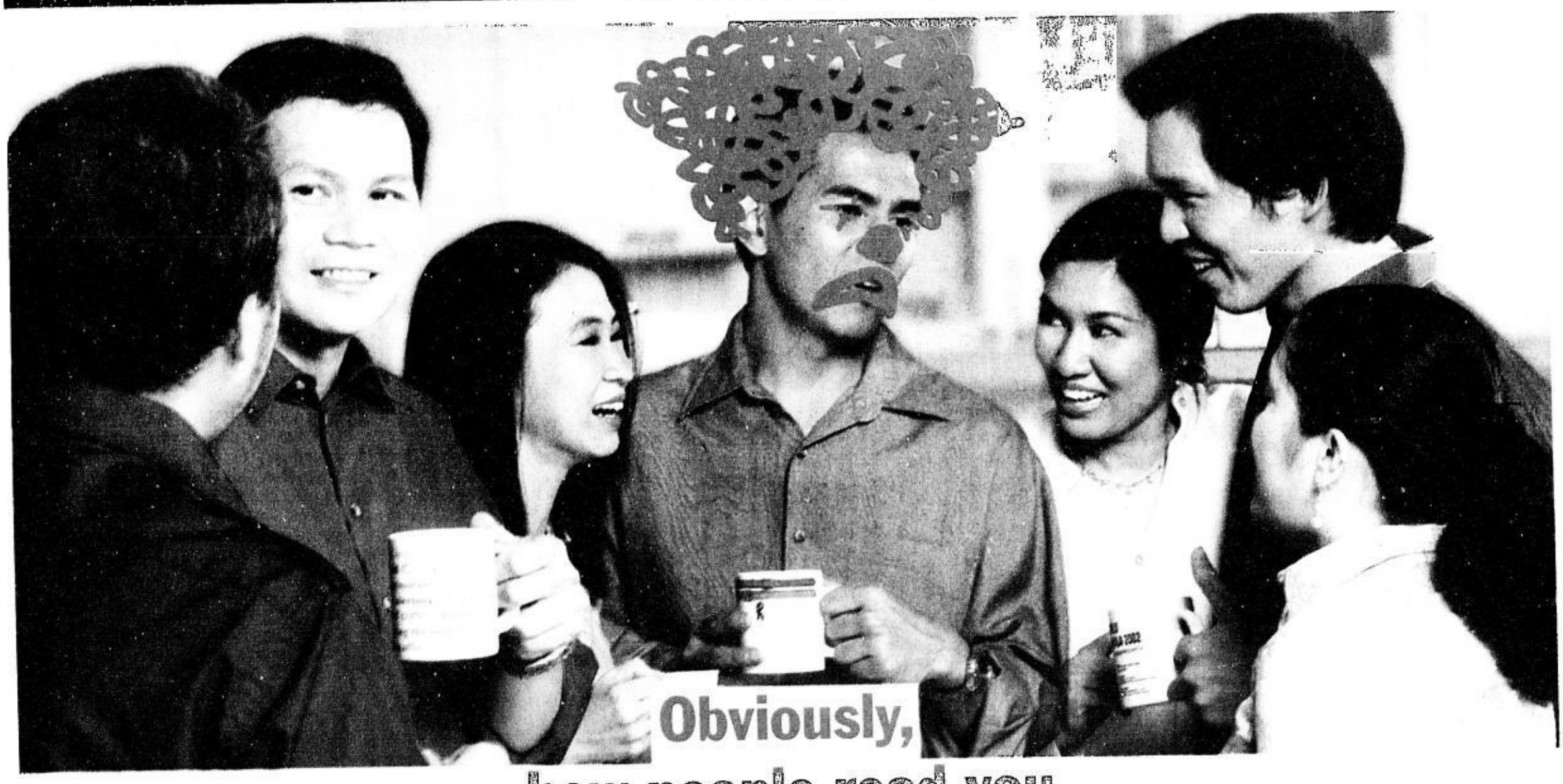
American Mardy Fish, led No. 8 Tommy Robredo 4-1 in the fifth set before dropping the last five games and the match, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 6-7 (7), 6-4.

Fish's explanation?

"I froze," he said.

Henin needed only 50 minutes to clock another qualifier, Ekaterina Makarova of Russia, 6-0, 6-2.

Along with Safin, another former champion, 2001 winner Lleyton Hewitt, also lost. The Australian was upset by 58th-ranked Agustin Calleri, 4-6 6-4 6-4 6-2. *AP*



AutoCAD 2008
PROMO PRICE
PHP 260,000.00
Also Available
AutoCAD Mechanical 2008
FREE
Compaq Presario C702
Compaq Presario C702 with Intel® Celeron® M Processor 530 (1.73 GHz, 1MB L2 Cache, 533MHz FSB) 512MB RAM, 80GB HDD, 15.4" WXGA
BUNDLED WITH 1 YEAR AUTODESK SUBSCRIPTION
Autodesk
Authorized Value Added Reseller
cti COLUMBIA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
"Your Systems Solutions Partner"
Call 524-0393 loc 601
Look for: Mr. Emerson Almazan Jr.

Website: www.inquirer.net/business

Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph

DE LOS SANTOS-STI MEDICAL CENTER
HEART CARE DIAGNOSTIC, INC.
416-0848
SENIOR CITIZEN
20% DISCOUNT
2 D ECHOCARDIOGRAM
DOPPLER TEST

A way out of poverty, according to 'Mr. John'

A new book unveils taipan John Gokongwei's struggles and triumphs

By Amy R. Remo

IT IS NEITHER A CURTAIN CALL FOR an old man nor is it for fame or fortune.

Taipan John Gokongwei Jr. humbly said the book written about his life and legacy was meant to "share my story in the hope that I may inspire even a single person to become an entrepreneur."

His book, the "John L. Gokongwei Jr.: The Path of Entrepreneurship" written by Ateneo de Manila University's Dr. Marites A. Khanser, tells the "riches-to-rags-to-riches" story of the taipan.

In the book launching at the Ateneo held Wednesday, Gokongwei himself admitted that entrepreneurship was not an easy path to take.

"But we have to start somewhere, however small, however difficult," he said in his speech.

Gokongwei said he believes that entrepreneurship is a way out of poverty.

Teaching values

Published by the Ateneo de Manila University press, the book, according to him, encourages Filipinos to be fearless, push the limits, be resilient and take calculated risks.

It likewise teaches readers the values of frugality, tenacity and hard work.

According to the taipan, a budding entrepreneur should ask four questions before deciding whether to venture into a business.

"Is there a market? Do I have enough capital? Can I compete? And can I sleep at night?" he told the audience.

"You should never lose sleep over business risks," he said.

These are just among the numerous lessons that can be gleaned from the book, as he shares "what I've gone through more than 60 years ago" from being a 15-year-old peddler of peanuts and other goods to be one of Asia's most successful businessman to date.

"Being an entrepreneur then and now aren't that different. We're still fighting it out with the bigger, multinational corporations," he said.

He noted that he, himself, has been fighting with the giants when he put up Great Taste, Cebu Pacific and Sun Cellular.

"Filipino entrepreneurs are braver, stronger and bolder," he proudly said.

Fulfilled

With the book, Gokongwei says he already feels fulfilled.

As he lightheartedly told the audience, "a man fulfills his role in the world by doing three things: plant a tree, have a son and write a book."

For her part, author Khanser heaved a happy sigh of relief and told guests at the launching that her two-year journey with the taipan had finally reached its finale.

Khanser is the director for the Doctor of Business Administration Program of the School of Business and Governance at the Ateneo de Davao University.

Eternal debt

Calling herself "Mr. John's storyteller," Khanser said she owes an eternal debt to Gokongwei for allowing her to write her "dream book."

She also said she would miss the quiet dinners with Mr. John and Mrs. Elizabeth, the wonderful conversations as well as the fun.

"His charm lies in his being young at heart," she said.

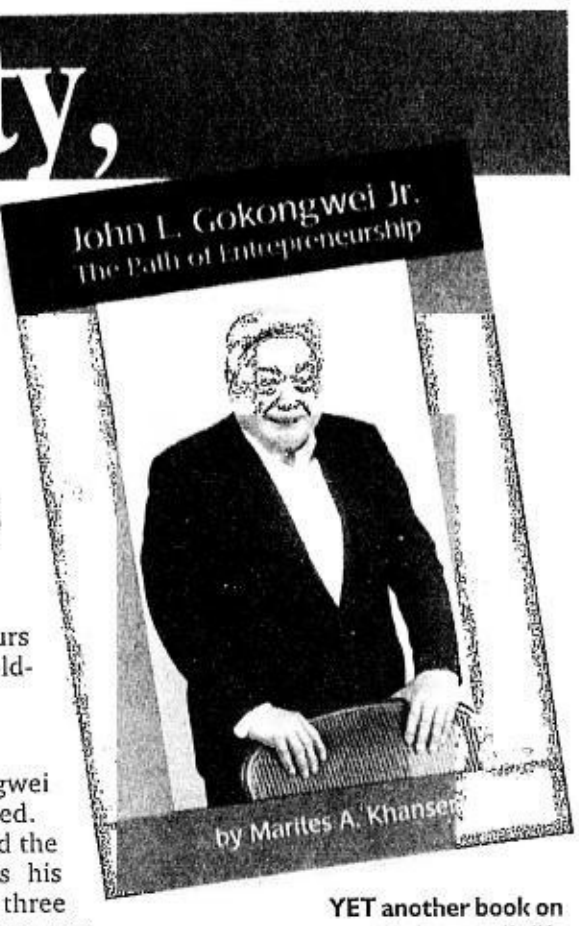
Despite encountering few difficulties in writing the book, Khanser said it was tenacity and passion that kept her going.

Two brands

She likewise credited her editors and nameless panels of reviewers for helping her with the book.

"This is not just a Gokongwei book, but also an Ateneo book. It carries two trademarks of two big brands," she added.

A WAY/ B6



YET another book on Gokongwei's life

IN THIS ISSUE

Sand of Mt. Pinatubo makes big business /B2

Batangas' loss is Apayao's gain/B3

IN THIS ISSUE

Small business firms in packaging game /B3

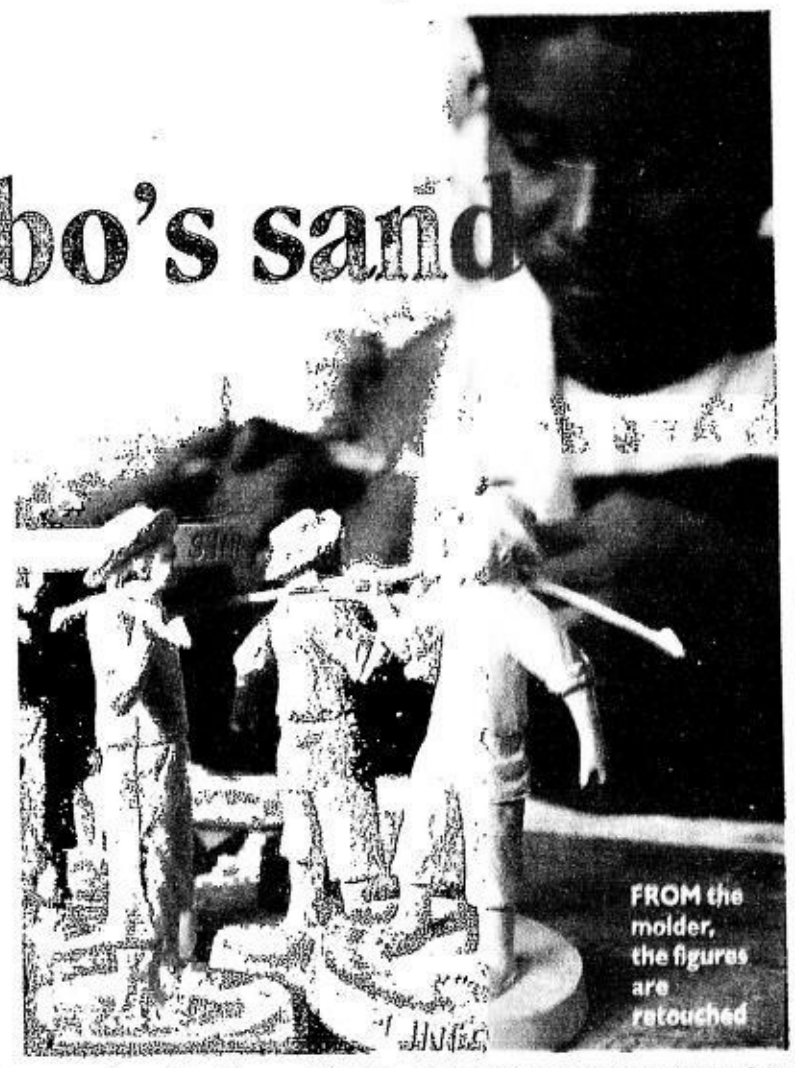
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX
& other SWISS WATCHES
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
BEST PRICE IN TOWN!!!
SPOT CASH
8341572
8316712
09178141967
SOFITEL PHILIPPINE PLAZA (WESTIN)
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM 7 days a week

Need space? Find all the space you need in your own Z-Loft.

One Rockwell
East and West Towers

Visit The Glass House model unit by the Power Plant Mall or call (632) 793-0088 www.e-rockwell.com

The business of Mt. Pinatubo's sand


FROM the molder, the figures are retouched

VARNISHING and painting the figurines before packing them.

Text and photos by Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—IN the daily routine of making figurines, Ernesto Gamboa does not lose sense of an irony.

Sand, which this 58-year-old craftsman blends with resin, more often than not, evokes memories of a disaster and the opportunities it opens to him.

"The blessings have been many. I have so much to thank for. What saddens me is that I still haven't been able to go back to my place," Gamboa says.

Hometown to him is still Bacolor, Pampanga, even if he has been away from it for 16 years.

The eruptions of Mt. Pinatubo in June 1991 forced Gamboa and other residents to leave. But returning was not possible.

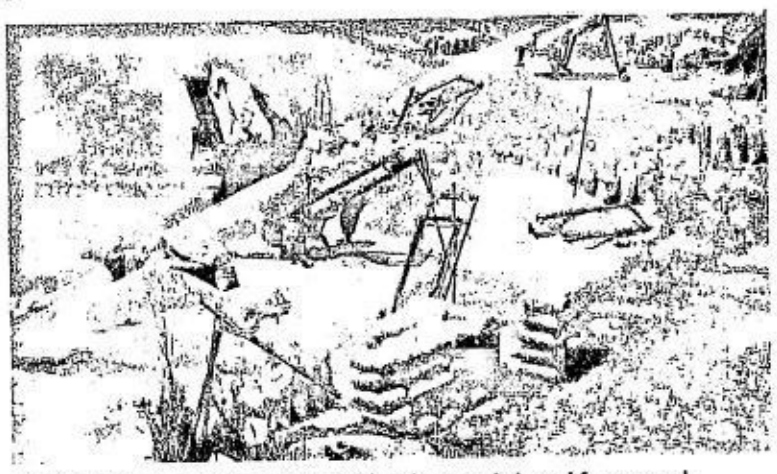
The town dealt with another enemy, which was no less treacherous like the explosions. Lahar was the name they learned to call it and the only signal for its coming was strong rains.

In October 1995, intense rains washed down the lahar or volcanic debris from the slopes, burying the town further.

Geologists estimated that the volcano spewed out six cubic kilometers or about 600 million truckloads of pyroclastic materials, which is a mix of sulfur and other gasses, ash, mud, pumice stones and largely, sand.

That's how abundant sand is in Pampanga, Zambales and Tarlac. The misfortune, or fortune, of Pampanga is that it tends to get more of that mineral.

Of the eight river systems where lahar flows during the rainy season, the most active so far is the Pasig-Potrero River. It cuts through Porac, Floridablanca, Bacolor, Sta. Rita and Lubao before it finally empties into the Manila Bay.


PUMICE stones are taken from the river and sieved from sand.

"*Nang karakal ing balas* (There's so much sand)," Gamboa says.

This former jeepney driver found good use for it, as other enterprising Kapampangan did.

Sand is what he uses to make figurines, trophies, plaques, knick-knacks and other items clients want him to fashion out of it.

Crafts

Disenyong Pinatubo Crafts, the business that Gamboa and his wife Luzviminda started in October 1991 while still at the Maimpis evacuation center, has done well.

Through it, they have sent all their seven children to college and provided capital for their children's bakery, canteen and mini-grocery businesses.

It has employed a steady team of 15 workers, helping out their families as well. The business helps at least eight former prisoners build their lives anew by tapping them as salesmen.

Gamboa takes pride in the fact that retail giant Shoemart has been carrying their products for three years now. Less than a dozen exporters still trust their products.

PLANT pots and gas lamps are made out of pumice stones

These are what the couple has turned out of the P20,000 capital from the Department of Trade and Industry, P30,000 worth of equipment from the Social Action Center of Pampanga, and training from the Department of Science and Technology.

Gardens

The village of Dolores in Mabalacat town, where Victor Jacob lived, was buried by Mt. Pinatubo's sand.

Jacob, 50, also lost his job as utility man when the United States military decided to close the Clark Air Base in the same year that the Pinatubo disaster raged hard.

He began anew by going full-time in his hobby of bonsai making. He put in a local touch by carving "volcanic pots" from out of pumice stones.

Those are whitish, lightweight rocks. If pulverized, they produce fine and white sand. Jacob uses it as a layer to the mountain soil on which he grows his bonsai.

These have become his come-on to buyers who drop by his garden along the Dolores section of the MacArthur Highway.

About 20 bonsai gardens line that sand-filled stretch.

Jacob's neighbor, Erwin Gueco, sculpts elephants, carabaos or lamps out of pumice stones.

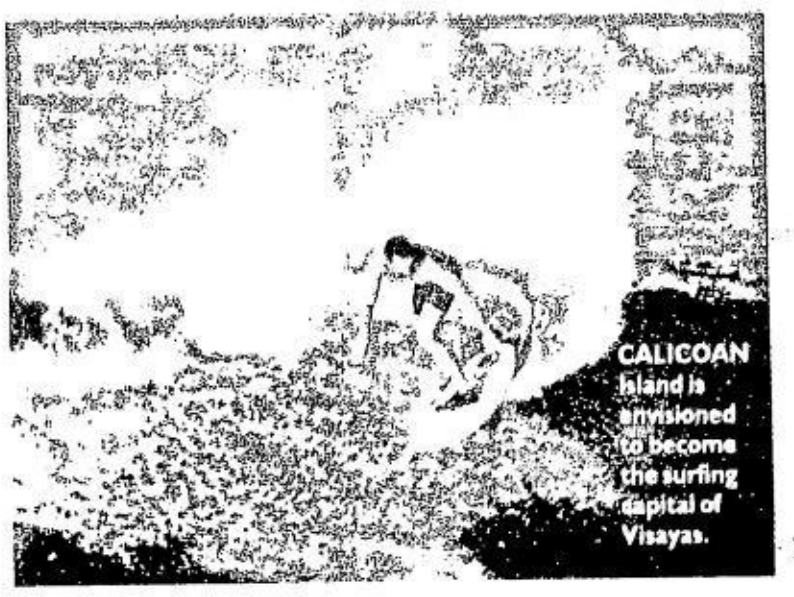
Gueco, 27, calls his works "garden pieces."

Pants

Zenaida Santiago, 48, likes it when it rains. The sand along the Bamban-Sacobia River is replenished, giving more reasons for haulers to come and buy.

Like some 30 other women in

THE BUSINESS/B6


CALICOAN Island is envisioned to become the surfing capital of Visayas.

Big resort to rise on Calicoan Island

By Ven S. Labro
Inquirer Visayas

GUIUAN, EASTERN SAMAR—A MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR BEACH resort would soon rise on Calicoan Island, which is envisioned as the surfing capital in Eastern Visayas.

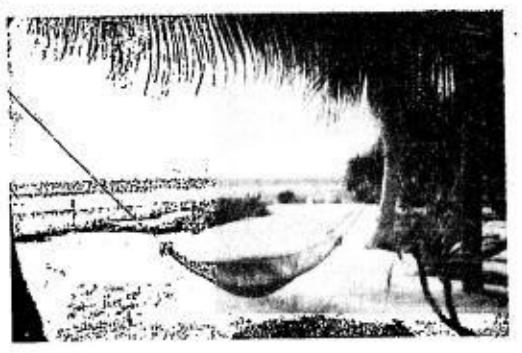
Tim Brumlik, American resort developer and director of the Calicoan Island Resort Development Corp. (CIRDC), said the project would cost around $160 million.

Brumlik said construction work on the resort would start in January next year and would take over two years to finish.

CIRDC's proposed 11-hectare resort would be located at the middle beach of the 1,600-hectare Calicoan Island, he said.

Douglas Ramsey, the architect who designed the project, said the eight-story hotel would be shaped like a pyramid and would have outdoor balconies.

Ramsey said the project would be a series of complexes with the condominium hotel as the main complex.


THE LONG beachfront of the resort complex

Aside from the condominium hotel, the resort would also have 20 private villas and a two-hectare swimming pool complex, he said.

The other features would include a health spa with casino component, medical facility for cosmetic surgery, stabilization unit, heliport, and a sports complex.

Brumlik said the investors of their Philippine corporation included himself and a few Europeans.

Lawyer Manuel Go, owner of the land to be occupied by CIRDC's resort hotel, said a group of Korean investors would also set up a 500-room luxury hotel at the south beach of Calicoan Island.

Go also explained that his company does not have any involvement in the American and Korean business ventures, except to provide the site for the projects.

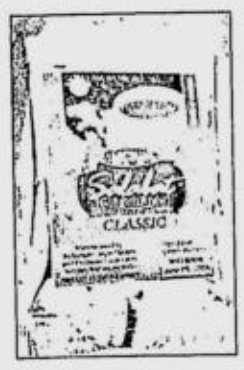
"We develop land and then find the people that do the verticals," Go said.

Victor Domingo, presidential assistant for Eastern Visayas, said the government would be setting up infrastructure requirements for the upcoming resorts, such as a good airport, roads, power and water.

Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone, some Korean businessmen, local businessmen and other government officials attended the project's launching held recently.

West Visayas' small businesses play the packaging game

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
Inquirer Visayas



DIFFERENT products with packages designed by Taytay sa Kauswagan Inc.

ILOILO CITY—SMALL BUSINESSES in Western Visayas have found out that well-designed food labels and packages are the way to beat the more established players in the industry.

Demands for food labels and appropriate packaging have increased in the last two years after start-ups in the "pasalubong" food and gifts businesses have realized that they can level the playing field by presenting their products in more appealing ways.

Among them is Nida Custodio, a supplier of "tocino" and other preserved meat products in Iloilo City. She never thought of seriously going into business until she saw the food label, "Nida's Kitchen," designed for her by the Kauswagan Design and Packaging Center.

Kauswagan is owned by Taytay sa Kauswagan (Bridge to Progress), a private organization that is into micro lending to help families establish small businesses in the countryside. Based in Iloilo, Taytay has branches in Luzon and Mindanao but it is in the Visayas where it has more reach and clients.

Food products

The Kauswagan design and packaging center, located at Lapuz, La Paz district, has assisted 52 food business and 23 nonfood businesses since last year.

The food products range from sweets like "bandi," "barquillos" and "barquiron" to squid rings, "tocino" and mango tarts. The nonfood items include candles, curtains, shawls, slippers, herbal soaps and Boracay cloth lanterns, among others.

Kauswagan's Reynaldo Ambao said the center caters to Taytay's clients and other entrepreneurs who may want to use the packaging equipment like bond sealers, shrink, vacuum and repacking machines with minimal costs.

"We run the center like a business because we also want to help small entrepreneurs improve their products. But many of our clients are Taytay members who run small retail or sari-sari stores selling cooking oil, soy sauce, sugar, salt and other basic food items repacked in sachets," said Ambao.

The center also assists entrepreneurs to design their labels and establish their identity in the market. It has two artists who create suitable labels and packaging.

Among the eye-catching designs created by Kauswagan are the packages for Badiangan ginger tea and Boracay cloth lanterns.

The ginger tea label was done in yellow and purple backdrop with deep yellow swirls and steaming cup of ginger tea. Pasted on the metallic plastic, it stands out.

The lantern boxes are done in pink with blossoms of hibiscus for a tropical feel.

The packaging center was established by the Kauswagan through the technical assistance from the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and a grant from "Cooperacion Española," or the "Ministerio de Asunto Esteriores Y de Cooperacion" of Spain, which financed the purchase of machines and some laboratory equipment.

Reaching out

Rowen Gelonga, the acting regional director of DOST in Western Visayas, said Kauswagan reaches out to micro and small businesses that otherwise cannot be reached by the DOST. The latter can be focused on small and medium businesses that

WEST VISAYAS/ B7

EXPANSION OPPORTUNITY

PORTA VAGA MALL

Is looking for franchises and anchor stores for its new mall in Baguio City!

Located right at the heart of Session Road - an adjacent part of the Baguio Cathedral.

For interested franchises/stores who wish to expand their stores.

CONTACT
Antonette W. Aswigui
Marketing Department
Porta Vaga Mall
Session Road. Baguio City
Tel. No. (6374)444-2999
Telefax (6374)304-0109
0917-8291981 or 0917-5071070
e-mail: portavaga1@yahoo.com.ph

PACKAGING machine at TSKI to help micro and small businesses.

PHOTOS BY ARNOLD ALMACEN/INQUIRER VISAYAS

EDSA Grand RESIDENCES

Living Beside SM City North EDSA

MODEL UNITS READY FOR VIEWING @ EDSA cor. Corregidor St., Q.C.

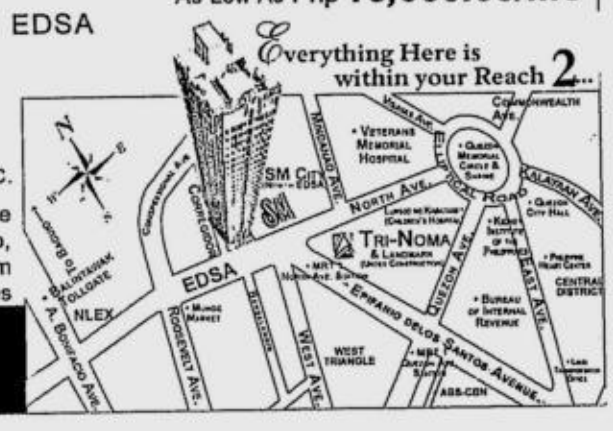
Units For Sale Available in Studio, 1, 2, & 3 Bedroom Suites

www.edsagrand.com
(632) 456-4750; 926-1750
(+63) 917-5396888
FOR ANNOUNCEMENT ONLY

Dare to COMPARE! We are NOT BARE!

Fully Finished 3 Bedroom Units As Low As Php 15,000.00/mo

Everything Here is within your Reach 2...



Batangas' loss is Apayao's gain

By Delmar Cariño
Inquirer Northern Luzon

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—The sloping hills of Conner town in Apayao are showing promises of becoming North Luzon's producer of *durian*, *lanzones* and *rambutan* that can corner the region's landlocked markets and highway stores.

A 20-hectare farm owned by Ireneo Ortega, a native of Cuenca, Batangas, has proven that given enough financial, technical and market support, the town can become an alternate source of the three crops that have made Davao, Batangas and Laguna famous.

Ortega has led Conner's charge of including the production of durian, lanzones and rambutan in the town's generally warm lands which are primarily devoted to cacao production.

Conner is in Apayao's southernmost portion and sandwiched between Abra and Cagayan. It has a land area of 91,384.42 hectares spread on mountains and rolling hills and patches of interior flat lands.

Ortega migrated to Conner in 1959 after finishing high school at the Central Luzon State University (CLSU) in Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

Showcase

He stayed at his uncle's lot, which he expanded through the years to become what it is today—a showcase of Conner's ability to produce durian, lanzones, rambutan, cacao and citrus fruits.

Ortega says he is a farmer by nature. In fact, he failed to earn a college degree, save in 2003 when he got his Bachelor of Science major in biology degree from the Apayao State College through the Expanded Tertiary Education and Accreditation Program (Eteap).

Ortega was amazed over Conner's natural ability to produce cacao. He decided to give lanzones a try. In 1965, he brought with him 20 lanzones seeds from Batangas.

The plants grew robustly in his uncle's lot. He then expanded his lanzones farm.

In 1995, he piloted rambutan. Durian followed in 2000.

"A 10-day farmers' seminar in 1988 in Mindanao which I attended made me learn about durian production," he says.

Favorable results

His initial crops yielded favorable results. The rest was history.

Ortega's tenure as councilor for more than 15 years did not dampen his love for the farm.

He continued planting and earned much from it. His income was used to send his eight children to school.

Today, Ortega's smiles are as wide as his farm that continues to reap dividends from the sale of the three fruits.

His farm produce has supplied markets in Isabela, Cagayan and Apayao.

Ortega says he produces an annual average of 14 tons of lanzones, five tons of rambutan and close to 200 kilograms of durian. His harvests have penetrated the market of Tuguegarao City, acknowledged as a major industrial and commercial center in Cagayan Valley.

Selling his crops at an average retail price of P40 a kg for lanzones, P25 a kg for rambutan, and P60 a kg for durian, Ortega easily recoups his annual production cost of P200,000, which, he says, included the salaries for 10 workers.

Harvest time comes only in September and October, he says.

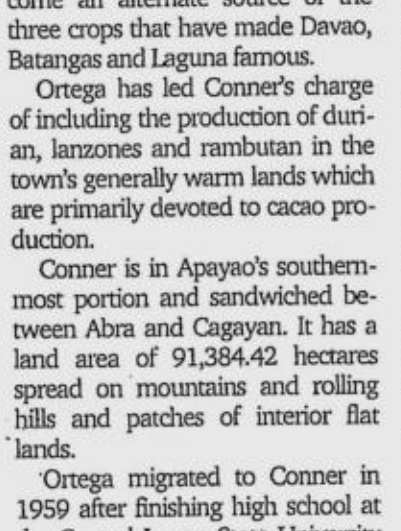
Contract growing

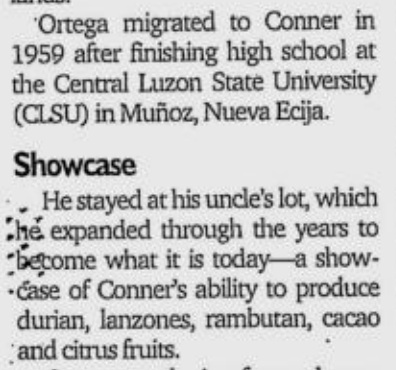
Buyers swarmed Ortega's fruits during the province's "Harvest Festival" in October last year. He says he has entered into contract growing to supply 10 tons of lanzones needed by a company engaged in wholesale trade of fruits.

Ortega says though that in the case of durian, more time is needed to make it a successful enterprise.

He says his durian plantation began to bear fruits only in 2001 and his produce has yet to be noticed by wholesalers and companies.

BATANGAS'/ B7





CONNER'S fresh produce

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS OF C&P HOMES, INC.

All holders of shares of common stock of C&P Homes, Inc. (respectively, the "Shareholders" and "C&P") are hereby notified that on August 16, 2007, Vista Land & Lifescapes, Inc. ("Vista") filed a Tender Offer Report (SEC Form 19-1) with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and the Philippine Stock Exchange ("PSE") pursuant to Section 19 of the Securities Regulation Code. Vista, which is a corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Republic of the Philippines, intends to acquire up to 5,464,420 common shares of C&P.

The consideration for the acquisition of the common shares of C&P to be tendered (the "Subject Shares") is one (1) common share in Vista (the "Vista Shares") for every one (1) share in C&P.

The Tender Offer shall commence on August 21, 2007, and end at 3:00 p.m. on September 18, 2007 (the "Tender Offer Period").

The Subject Shares are intended to be crossed on the PSE on September 21, 2007 (the "Cross Date") subject to PSE approval.

Vista intends to issue the Vista Shares as payment for the tendered and accepted Subject Shares on September 24, 2007, assuming the C&P shares are crossed on the Cross Date. The Vista Shares will be issued in scripless form by lodgment with the PDTC.

Tendering Shareholders who hold stock certificates ("Scrip Shareholders") should submit within the Tender Offer Period their duly endorsed stock certificates, the duly accomplished Application and the following supporting documents:

For Corporate Shareholders

1. Certified true copies of the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws of the shareholder and latest amendment/s thereof.

2. A notarized Secretary's Certificate substantially in the form prescribed by Vista setting forth resolutions of the tendering shareholder's Board of Directors authorizing the tender and sale of the Company's Subject Shares and designating the signatories for the purpose.

3. A duly accomplished signature card containing the specimen signatures of its authorized signatories validated by the Corporate Secretary.

4. C&P Minority Shareholders who have lost their share certificates must submit a notarized Affidavit of Loss and additionally sign and submit a Stock Assignment Form for each replacement share certificate and an authorization to withhold the release of the Vista shares for a period of one (1) year.

5. C&P Minority Shareholders submitting share certificates issued prior to December 6, 2005 (the effective date of the C&P reverse stock split) must endorse the same share certificates and additionally sign and submit a Stock Assignment Form for each replacement share certificate.

For Individual Shareholders

1. One (1) valid identification card containing the photo and specimen signature of the shareholder.

2. For shareholders acting through an attorney-in-fact, a duly notarized Special Power of Attorney substantially in the form prescribed by Vista.

3. A duly accomplished signature card containing the specimen signature of the shareholder.

4. C&P Minority Shareholders who have lost their share certificates must submit a notarized Affidavit of Loss and additionally sign and submit a Stock Assignment Form for each replacement share certificate and an authorization to withhold the release of the Vista shares for a period of one (1) year.

5. C&P Minority Shareholders submitting share certificates issued prior to December 6, 2005 (the effective date of the C&P reverse stock split) must endorse the same share certificates and additionally sign and submit a Stock Assignment Form for each replacement share certificate.

Tendering Scrip Shareholders may submit their applications to ATR KimEng Securities, Inc. ("ATRKE Securities ") at the following address: 17th Tower One & Exchange Plaza, Ayala Triangle, Ayala Triangle, Makati City.

Defective applications (e.g., with discrepancy between the specimen signatures on file and the endorsement) must be corrected within the Tender Offer Period to avoid being rejected by Vista. Hence, Shareholders are strongly urged to submit their Application to Tender and supporting documents early to allow sufficient time to correct any deficiency in their Application. Shareholders are also urged to indicate their telephone numbers in their respective application forms to allow ATRKE Securities to inform them immediately of any deficiency in their applications.

Tendering Shareholders whose shares are lodged with the Philippine Central Depository Nominee Corporation ("PCD") ("Scripless Shareholders") should instruct their brokers to electronically transfer their shares to ATRKE Securities for receipt by ATRKE Securities prior to 3:00 p.m. of September 18, 2007. ATRKE Securities shall hold the tendered common shares only as custodian.

Tendering Shareholders shall have the right to withdraw any tendered shares at any time during the Tender Offer Period. For a withdrawal to be effective, a written notice of withdrawal must be received by ATRKE Securities before 3:00 p.m. of September 18, 2007.

Copies of SEC Form 19-1 may be obtained by Shareholders from ATRKE Securities at their addresses stated above.

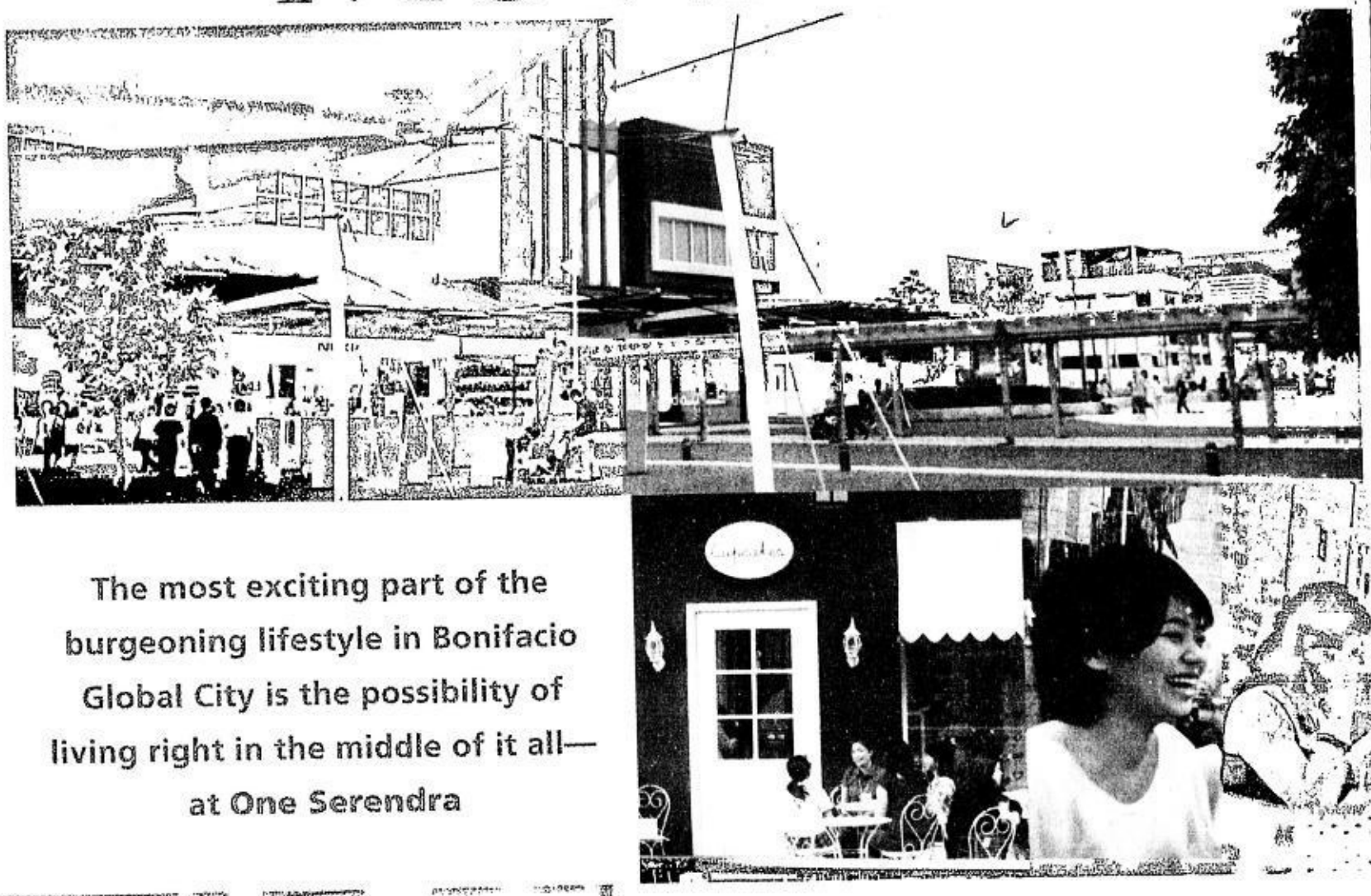
For inquiries about Vista or the Tender Offer, please call ATRKE Securities at (02) 849-8888 (Attention: Ms. Rosalie Dela Cruz) or Vista Land & Lifescapes, Inc. at (02) 887-2264 loc 109 (Attention: Ms. Jo L. Ilijay).

B4

ONE Serendra

THRIVE IN FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

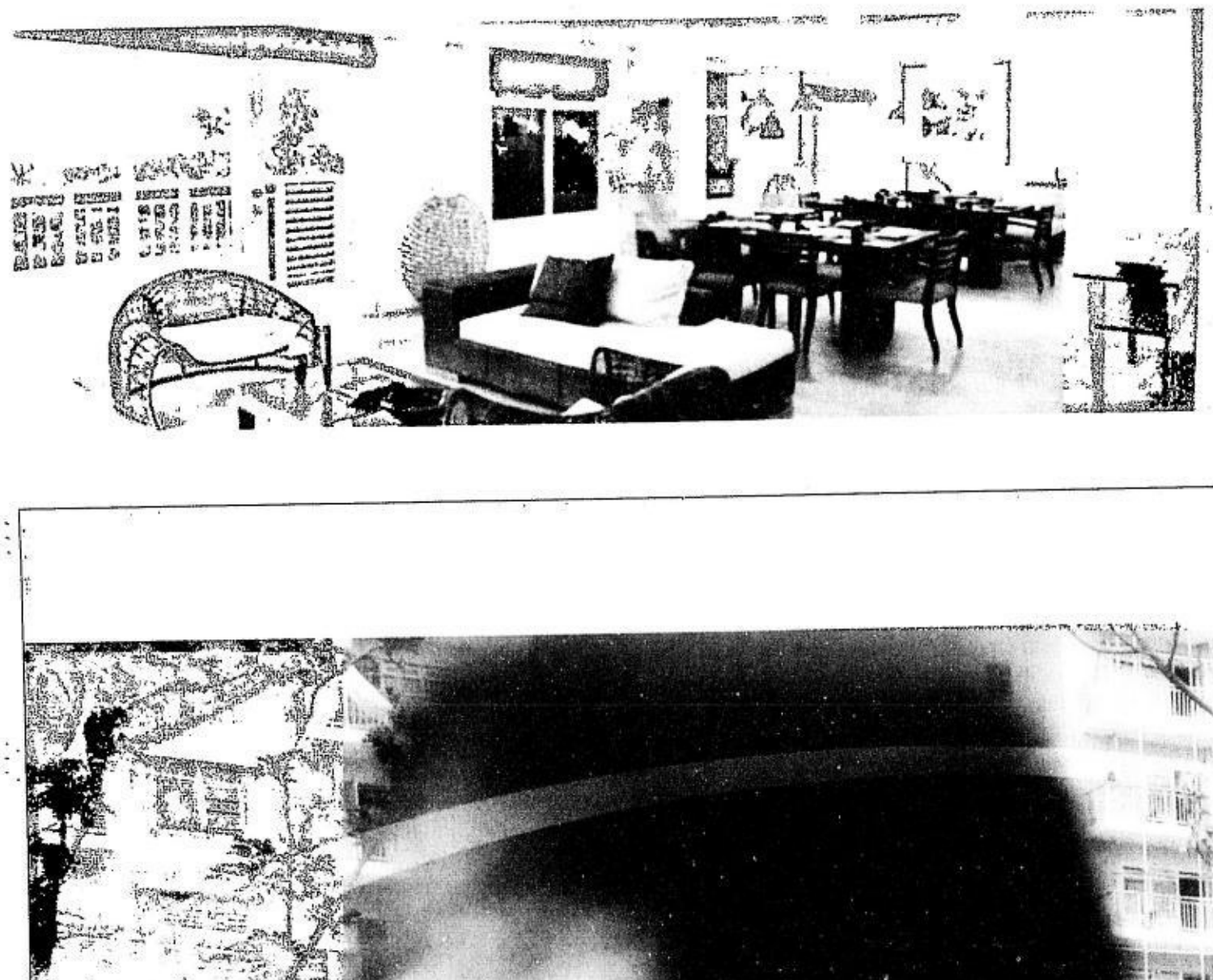
Amid today's dizzying culture of concrete malls and shopping centers in the metro emerges a refreshing family-friendly concept in retail and entertainment lifestyle—Bonifacio High Street. This kilometer-long stretch of verdant lawns, exciting shopping choices, and second floor office spaces is the heart of the City Center masterplan of Bonifacio Global City—the emerging business district of the future. The most exciting part of the burgeoning lifestyle in Bonifacio Global City is the possibility of living right in the middle of it all—at One Serendra, no less, the most spacious and lowest-density residential development within Bonifacio Global City.

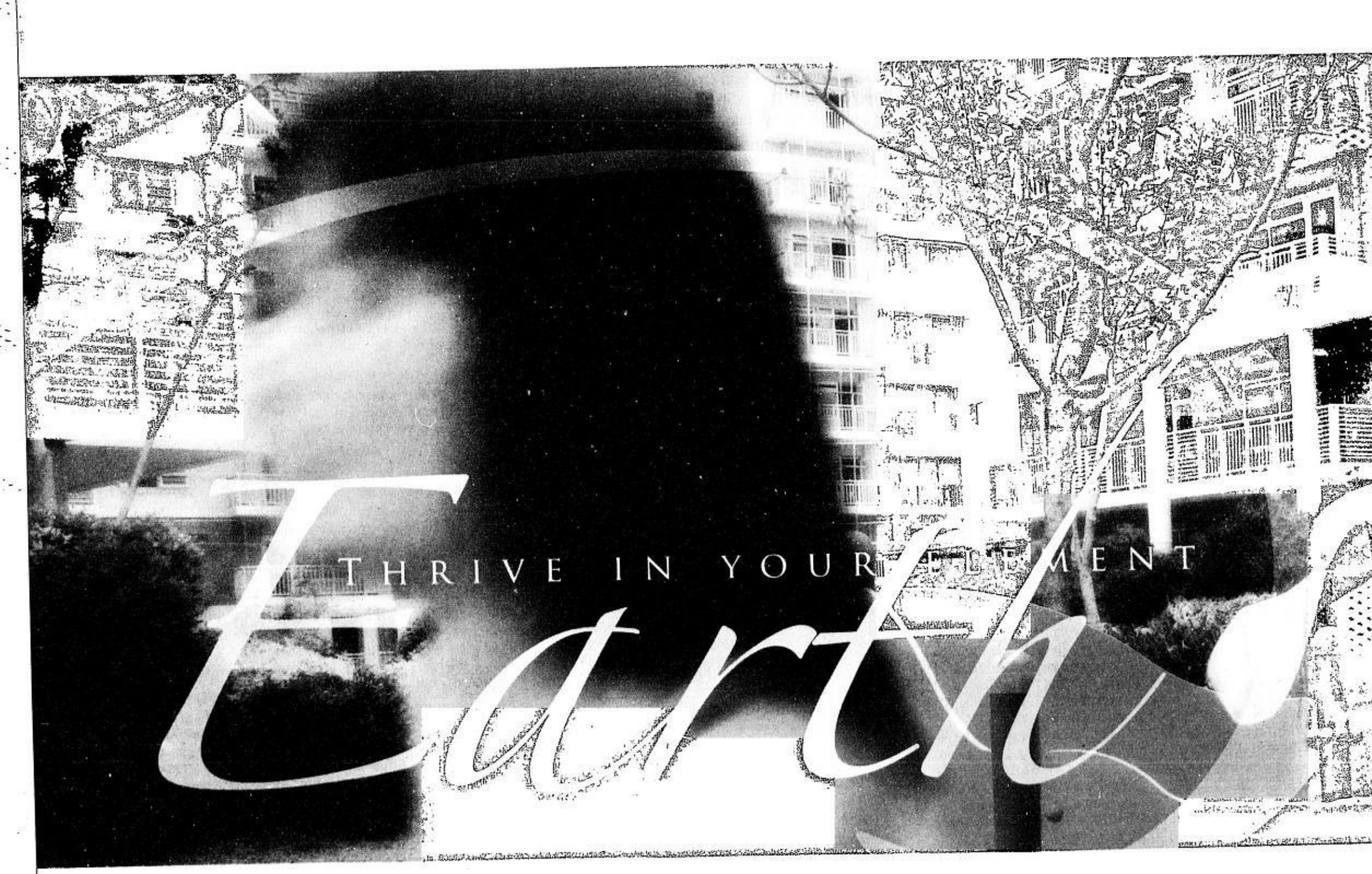


The unique living experience begins at Bonifacio High Street, where exciting international brands abound, such as CK Underwear, Springfield, Nike, Charles and Keith, Kenneth Cole, and hard-to-find hip brands such as United Colors of Benetton, Puma, Von Dutch, Mizuno and The Natural Source. Who can forget the famous pioneer branch of Krispy Kreme? Families will enjoy all the other familiar cafes, restaurants, and establishments here at this sprawling open air complex, together with the distinctive public art, water features and play areas especially for children.

From the sprawling spaces and wide skyline at Bonifacio High Street, the Shops at Serendra provides a more quaint multicultural experience, with its cozy storefronts and intimate dining places offering a world of flavors. It is an important facet of the overall Bonifacio High Street retail and leisure lifestyle. Indeed, metro denizens have hailed Shops at Serendra as the most important destination these days for a one-of-a-kind, revolutionary entertainment and lifestyle experience. People are abuzz extolling the exciting flavors of Duo, Abe, Portico, Hossein's, Thai at Silk, Guava, Polu Kai, Balducci, Tatami, and Mezza Luna, among many others. Newly opened restos such as Chelsea, Culliere, and Larry's Bar and Cafe continue to draw in discriminating patrons.

The most exciting part of the burgeoning lifestyle in Bonifacio Global City is the possibility of living right in the middle of it all—at One Serendra





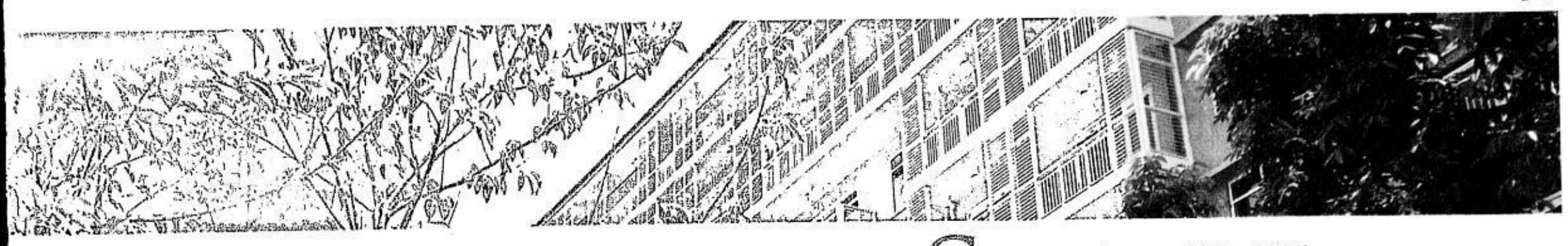
Grounded in suburban sensibilities, growing in natural abundance

Come home to the serenity of open space and greenery—garden nooks, tree shades, jogging paths and play areas. Nature sets your children's imagination free while firmly grounding them in a secure community. Situated within the fast-growing Bonifacio Global City, One Serendra's exquisite living spaces, exclusive amenities, and distinctive landscape let your family take root. Growing and thriving with each passing day, you'll certainly value your home even more in this sanctuary of gracious suburban living in the city.

CALL **(632) 848 5000 / (632) 901 3489** EMAIL **ask@ayalalandpremier.com** VISIT **www.oneserendra.com**

Visit the Ayala Land Sales, Inc. office at the 2nd floor of Shops at Serendra, or view the model units at the Serendra Pavilion, 26th Street, Bonifacio Global City, everyday from 9am to 8pm.

HLURB LTS: 10412, 10464, 14646, and 16664



AND LUXURY OF SPACE

Cupcakes by Sonja, Mary Grace Café, Miss Desserts and Kape Isla have formed cult followings for merienda and coffee breaks. For wine connoisseurs, Barolo is the best for a quick nightcap with friends. Home furnishing shops such as Habi Home, Isa Casa, Hermle Clocks, and Durrani carpets along with numerous exclusive art galleries like Verite and Galerie Raphael provide discriminating homeowners the most tasteful choices in interior design, while unique finds in fashion and accessories await shoppers at Peppered Cherry, Luna, and Mantra. There are even service shops such as Style Optix, Renergy Derm Spa, Nail Tropics nail spa, Bench Fix, Blow-Up Babies, and BPI for daily conveniences, especially for the future residents of One Serendra.

In terms of living spaces in this prime location, only One Serendra offers the most generously sized condominium units to complement the airiness and limitless possibilities that the overall Bonifacio Global City lifestyle affords. A home at One Serendra will best create the ease of suburban living to match the laidback and soothing rhythm of social life in this business district of the future. This is made possible through One Serendra's low-density atmosphere. Simply put, residents will find themselves sharing space or amenities with fewer people at any given time. It is condominium living redefined in the graciousness of suburban terms—freedom of movement and luxury of space, and privacy for both families and individuals, most especially children.

From the sprawling spaces and wide skyline at Bonifacio High Street, the Shops at Serendra provides a more quaint multicultural experience, with its cozy storefronts and intimate dining places offering a world of flavors.

The good life is now indeed at Bonifacio Global City, and with a home at One Serendra, all these possibilities for leisure and entertainment are literally just beyond the doorstep. From the world of Bonifacio High Street and Shops at Serendra—with its sprawling open spaces and a pedestrian atmosphere that is conducive to relaxing strolls, window shopping, and mingling with friends—you can seamlessly transition and easily retreat back into your spacious sanctuary of a home at One Serendra.

Most importantly, this vision is now a reality with the first phase of One Serendra units already being turned. The Ayala Land Premier turnover experience is as distinctive as the units themselves, marked with attention to detail, commitment to product quality, and priority toward customer satisfaction. One Serendra units have passed stringent levels of quality assurance within Ayala Land Premier before reaching its valued clients—from the contractor to the construction management team, to customer relations and finally to the hands of unit owners.

Indeed, the first few residents of One Serendra will be the luckiest ones in immediately enjoying its revolutionary lifestyle in the city—a redefinition of the metropolitan high life through the accessible comforts of a spacious condominium home within a green, suburban sanctuary. It's not yet too late to be part of the authentic, gracious suburban community offered by One Serendra. Call 848-5000 / 901-3489 or e-mail ask@ayalalandpremier.com, or visit www.oneserendra.com.

AyalaLandPREMIER

ONE Serendra

Cleanliness, kindness behind success of Calamba City resort

By Maricar Cinco
Inquirer Southern Luzon

CALAMBA, LAGUNA—TEODY AND Meda Maiquez, owners of Angel's Spring Private Resort, believe that their edge against the many other hot springs and swimming pools in town is the cleanliness of their place and the "kindheartedness" the place espouses.

"Guests really keep coming back," Meda shares, adding that during summer, an average of 10 guests call in for reservations for one day, weekday or weekend.

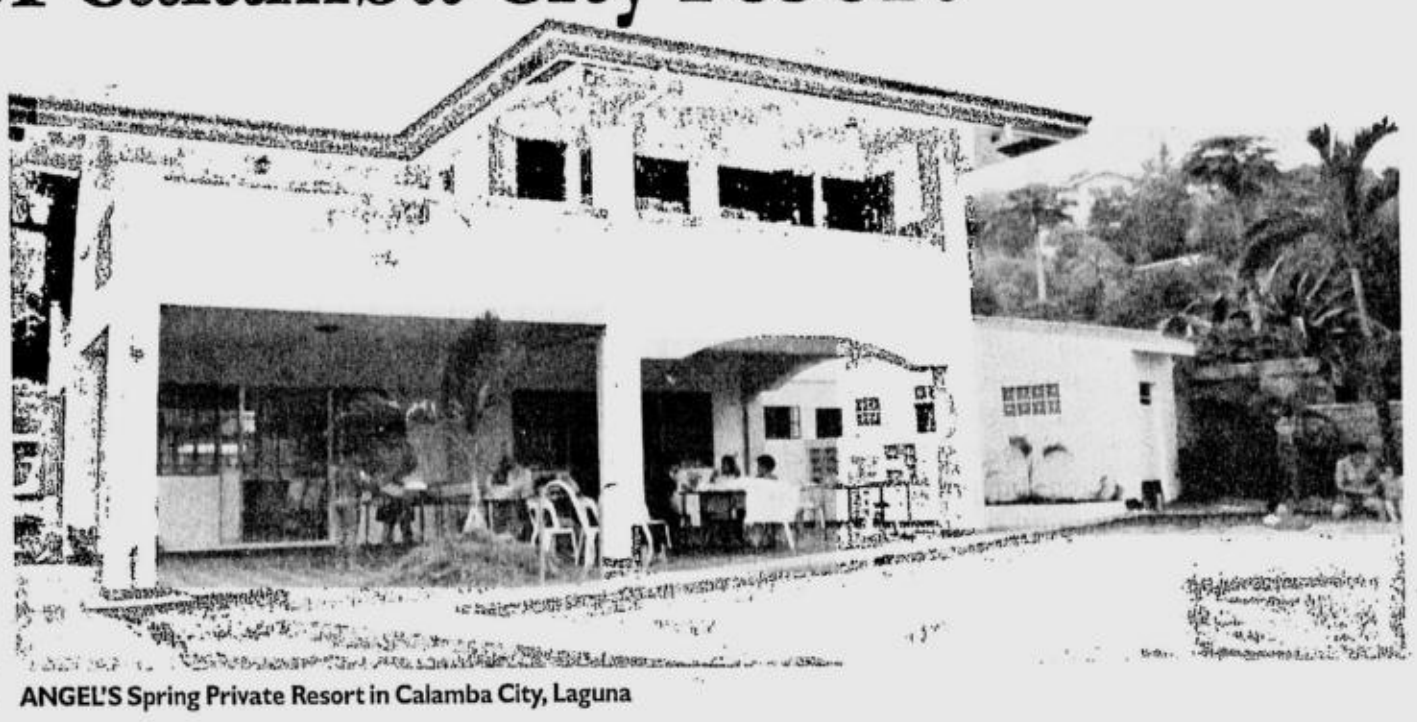
Their clients are mostly from Laguna or Manila, but many also from as far as Subic, Bulacan and Quezon.

Even during the rainy season, which is considered to be the lean season for private resort businesses, Angel's Spring is still filled up with customers holding parties and seminars.

"Perhaps because of the cleanliness and its relatively low rates, that is why they come to our place," Meda adds.

Aside from the guaranteed sanitation of the swimming pools, the owners also impose precautions to ensure the safety of the guests.

The resort's caretaker, Sonny, went through an intensive training from Red Cross, and regularly attends to every need of customers.


ANGEL'S Spring Private Resort in Calamba City, Laguna

Risk taker

The resort, which was opened to the public in 1998, has caretakers but it is the couple who personally manages the business for almost 10 years now.

Every week, they drive from their residence in Mandaluyong City to Laguna to check the rest house and the water supply for the pools.

When Meda retired from her work as a property manager and personnel administrator, she used all her retirement pay to the resort business.

"When I was young, I thought of working until 40 and have something (a business) afterward until I grow old," Meda says.

Teody, on the other hand, grew up in Calamba and had relatives who were also running private resorts.

The two saw the profitability of engaging in real estate and in a business that they were already familiar with.

"I am a risk-taker," Meda admits, "but I play it safe."

She says the well-planned business realized its payback in just three years.

Bright aura

Angel's Spring started as a single resort with a two-story rest house and two swimming pools.

"We were minimalist with the design," Meda says, describing the resort as "simple, and yet we really wanted it to have a bright aura."

She says it was her passion to keep everything neat and orderly, a practice she learned from her previous job.

OWNERS Teody and Meda Maiquez

By 2000, the couple bought a nearby resort and converted it to Angel's Spring II.

"[It was] for expansion. Since it was adjacent [to the first one] it could be used for bigger events," Meda says.

With both Angel's Spring I and II, the resort houses company outings, debuts, weddings, student activities, graduation parties and even spiritual retreats.

Social responsibility

Living up to its angelic title, Angel's Spring is not just a business venture but also a venue to help other people.

"I believe we have a social responsibility—part of the income should go to these purposes," Meda explains.

Usually during the Feast of the Our Lady of the Abandoned in Sta. Ana, which is also Meda's hometown in Manila, the couple allots one day for the orphanage to use the resort for free.

They have sponsored a number of foundations and religious congregations such as the Sisters of Mary Immaculate, Hospicio de San Jose, Elsie Gaches Village, Senden Home and Bantay Bata.

They call this an "open house" when children can freely enjoy the swimming pools and bring home some goodies with them.

"We had this customer before whose child was sick with cancer," Meda recalls. "When we learned about this, we allowed the family to use the resort for free to make the child happy."

Wholesome

The resort is primarily named after the couple's youngest daughter, Angel.

Aside from that, Teody himself wrote a poem, which could also be found at the Angel's Spring website, defining the business' name and vision—to be a place for soul-searching and communication with God.

To create a unique ambiance of tranquility and solace, Meda put up flowerbeds of orchids and yellow bells along the pathway to the pools.

With the couple being devout Catholic, a crucifix and an antique portrait of the Our Lady of the Abandoned are regular features in almost every room of the rest house.

"We've already offered this place as our means to make people happy," she says.

The couple tries to keep the place wholesome by not putting up billiard tables as other resorts usually do. They also do not allow fraternity hazing in the resort.

But what they really are strict about is disallowing stag parties at the resort.

They do not want their business to become a venue for exploitation, concerning the women being abused in such situation.

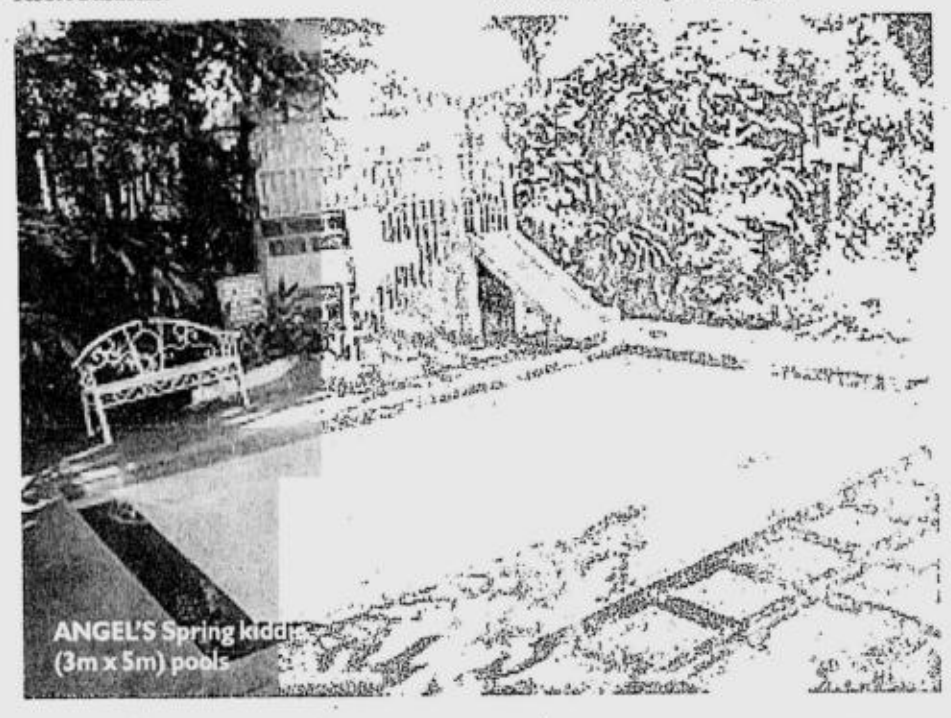
There were instances when they had to force guests out of the resort, and lost some regular clients because of this policy.

But Meda says they are ready to lose part of the sales but this does not stop other guests from coming in.

Teody and Meda look forward to expanding their business. However, profit becomes secondary to keeping the high standards.

"We are very much strict in keeping the place clean—physically and spiritually," Meda claims.

Most importantly, she says, "we try to make every guest feel that Angel's Spring is also his own."


ANGEL'S Spring kiddie (3m x 5m) pools

A way out of poverty, according to 'Mr. John'

From page B1

"John Gokongwei lived the life to the fullest by going through the path of entrepreneurship," she said.

Meanwhile, Rodolfo P. Ang, dean of the John Gokongwei School of Management at the Ateneo, said the book is one more way of taking the Gokongwei-Ateneo partnership to a higher level.

The partnership "goes beyond financial transactions" from 2002 when Gokongwei made a generous P200-million endowment to the undergraduate school of management, he explained.

The endowment had highlighted Gokongwei's commitment to education, seen through the Gokongwei Brothers Foundation which maintains a Technical Training Center for engineering graduates and the Children's Library, which offers free computer learning and other educational and entertainment materials to children up to 12 years old.

Aside from the Ateneo, the Gokongweis have also made donations to San Carlos University in Cebu, Xavier School, De La Salle University, Sacred Heart School and Immaculate Conception Academy.

Inspiration

With the book, Ang said Gokongwei provides inspiration to anyone who'd like to consider that path of entrepreneurship.

"The book is more than just a biography but an effort to get inside his mind [and] understand his business strategies," Ang said.

Ateneo president Fr. Bienvenido F. Niebres, S.J. echoed the same sentiment in saying that Gokongwei had evoked such admiration among students.

He added that with the book, Gokongwei's legacy will live on for the new generation he's helping to become entrepreneurs.

Working smart

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell

"The art of being wise is the art of knowing to overlook."-William James

BEING SUCCESSFUL IS NOT ABOUT how hard you work—it's about how smart you work. Michael LeBoef said, "Devoting a little of yourself to everything means committing a great deal of yourself to nothing."

In a leader's life, there's a big difference between activity and accomplishment. Activity is being busy. But as Henry David Thoreau once said, "It's not enough to be busy; so are the ants. The question is: What are [you] busy about?"

Generally speaking, there are five ways that people spend their working hours. Read through the following list and determine which one best describes how you spend your time:

1. Urgent—Loud things first.

You've no doubt heard the saying: The squeaky wheel gets the grease. Well, that shouldn't always be the case in leadership.

As a leader, you will probably encounter a lot of "squeaky wheels" in the form of complaints or requests or suggestions from the people in your organization. Some of them will be valid and merit spending your time on them. But often, oiling the squeaky wheels in your organization isn't the best use of your time.

Writer Shelby Friedman once said, "[The] person with an hour to kill usually spends it with someone who can't spare a minute."

Though it's tempting—especially if you're a people pleaser—you have to learn to discern what wheels really need grease, what ones can be greased by others and what ones will squeak no matter how much oil they have on them.

2. Unpleasant—Hard things first.

Many of us are taught this concept when we're young. It's the "dinner before desert" mentality, and there can be some value in it. But just because something is hard doesn't mean it should be at the top of your to-do list.

Henry Kissenger once joked, "Next week there can't be any crisis. My schedule is already full." As a leader, you have to constantly check your motives. If you have a strong work ethic, you may naturally want to get the harder things done first. But don't just start in on the hard stuff before determining the value of your actions. If doing something easier is a better use of your time, then do that before you tackle the difficult tasks.

3. Unfinished—Last things first.

If you're like most leaders, you work on a day-to-day schedule. And many times your to-do list is left a little undone at the end of the day. If you have only completed eight of the 10 items on your list, the tendency is to automatically place the remaining two items at the top of your list for the following day. But that's not always the best use of your time.

As Johann Wolfgang Goethe once said, "Things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things which matter least."

Chances are, if the two items you didn't finish a day earlier were on bottom of your list, they weren't top priorities in the first place, and probably won't be top priorities the next day either.

Before you spend time completing an unfinished task from the day before, take time to evaluate it in comparison to the other things you need to accomplish. If finishing the task is still not a top priority, place it at the bottom of your list again, and work on it after you finish the more important items.

4. Unfulfilling—Dull things first.

Of the five styles, this one is probably the most common. If you subscribe to this notion, your tendency is to want to get boring things out of the way so you can refocus on what's really important.

As a result, you spend time doing the dull, mindless things, like copying or faxing or reading e-mails first. But even though those things must be done, they are rarely the top priority.

Robert McKain said, "The reason most major goals are not achieved is that we spend our time doing second things first." Don't waste time "getting things out of the way."

Instead, get a jump start on completing your most important task first.

5. Ultimate—First things first.

Do you naturally spend time on the most important things first? Whether you do them first or second or last, they eventually have to get done for you to succeed. Commit to give your best time—right now and in the future—to your most important tasks.

Although it's admirable to be ambitious and hard working, it's more desirable to be smart working. You see, the key to becoming a more efficient leader isn't checking off all the items on your to-do list each day.

It's in forming the habit of prioritizing your time so that you are accomplishing your most important goals in an efficient manner. When you're able to do that, it won't be long before you exceed your own expectations as a leader.

(For information on John Maxwell's in-house or public leadership or teamwork workshops, please e-mail us at bingericta@gmail.com or call 813-2049/2732 and ask for Jesi or Bing. Text MAXWELL ON to 4632 (Smart) to get daily SMS leadership insights from John Maxwell.)

The business of ...

From page B2

the village, Santiago gets more pumice stones that are sifted from the sand. When there's not much, she goes to the river to search for stones.

She and her two helpers cut these into smaller squares. Makers of denim pants come to buy these to give the fabric a stonewash effect. A sack fetches P15 to P25. Her team produces 200 sacks of pumice stones a week.

The biggest business that has come out of the sand boom after Pinatubo's 1991 eruptions is the quarry industry.

In Pampanga, which is some 60 km north of Metro Manila, many people make a living out of it.

Quarry operators (companies or individuals that hold permit over five to as much as 50 hectares of sand-rich public or private areas) sell the mineral by the truckloads or cubic meters straight to construction projects or to suppliers.

Sand is used for making hollow blocks, as filling materials or for cement mixes.

Private landowners, on the other hand, get royalties.

Drivers of heavy equipment, such as backhoes and loaders, also get to earn their keep. Truck owners rent out their vehicles for delivery or operate their own hauling business, employing a set of driver and helper for every truck.

Gasoline stations have their hands full supplying fuel to these trucks. Dozens of roadside canteens cater to drivers. Then, there are "hustlers" or men who guide the buyers to the source of good sand.

Industry leaders said about 30,000 people directly benefit from sand quarrying.

Local governments earn, too, from sand taxes.

The Pampanga provincial government has collected P36.6 million in sand taxes from July 2 to Aug. 21, capitol records showed.

Aside from collecting ecological taxes (ranging from P50 to P90 per truckload), towns and barangays get P45 and P60 from out of the P300-tax that the provincial government collects for every truckload.

Mechanized stripping hope of abaca farmers in Catanduanes

VIRAC, CATANDUANES—Governor Joseph C. Cua strongly believes that, apart from an aggressive abaca development program, local farmers should use mechanized stripping to double local fiber production.

This month, Cua, Fiber Industry Development Authority (Fida) officials led by provincial fiber officer Lorenzo Tariman, and local officials headed by Mayor Leo Rodriguez spearheaded the demonstration of the spindle machine to abaca farmers in Bato town.

In asking for the support of farmers for his program, the governor revealed that the Fida has received a grant from the Spanish government, P30 million of which would be allocated for Bicol and the Caraga region for the acquisition of spindle machines.

In Catanduanes, he added, each town would be initially provided one spindle machine in an effort to maintain the province's reputation as the abaca capital of the country.

The demonstration at Barangay San Roque was an eye-opener for farmers from outlying barangays as they expressed wonder at how fast the machine stripped fiber of fine quality.

Fida officials said the spindle machine can produce 100 to 200 kilos of S2 fiber every day, depending on the skill of the operator while manual stripping yields only about 10 kilos each day.

The Spanish grant would be coursed through active abaca farmers' cooperatives in nine towns, which will have to provide a 150-square-meter lot and a building, locally called

The demonstration at Barangay San Roque was an eye-opener for farmers

"hag-otan," to house the mobile machine possibly in areas near abaca plantations.

The machine is a common equipment of abaca farmers in Leyte, where abaca is harvested in the day and stripped at night in the farmers' homes.

The governor also asked farmers to remove the "amokid" and other low-quality fiber-producing abaca in their farmers and to replace them with "abuab" variety.

In his brief address, Cua likewise downplayed the possibility of establishing a pulp and paper mill in Catanduanes due to its high cost as well as environmentally-unfriendly waste products.

The activity served as the launching of the Catanduanes Unlad Abaka-Masa Program, which seeks to offer assistance to abaca farmers through disease eradication and rehabilitation activities in the light of findings that the dreaded abaca bunchy top, abaca mosaic and bract mosaic diseases have already infested 15 percent of the province's 23,676 hectares of abaca plantations cultivated by 15,454 farmers.

The project is aimed at increasing farm productivity and sustain a production rate increase of two percent and to increase the supply of abaca suckers in the province.

Specifically, 1,184.05 hectares, or five percent of the total abaca land area, will be rehabilitated involving 772 farmers.

Aside from abaca rehab and disease eradication, the other components of the project are the establishment of a one-hectare abaca nursery, technical training on spindle stripping, hands-on training on abaca decortication, and monitoring and evaluation.

Government statistics show that Catanduanes produced 15,160 metric tons of abaca fiber in 2005, representing 20 percent of the country's total production and 76 percent of Bicol's harvest.

It has also the highest acreage planted to abaca at 22,384 hectares tilled by 15,333 farmers. ***Fernan Gianan, Inquirer Southern Luzon***

West Visayas' small businesses play the ...

From page B3

also need assistance on packaging, labeling and marketing.

Aside from presenting the products well, packaging also protects the products from spoilage, thus lengthening its shelf life. Research should be done to come up with appropriate layers of packaging for a product.

For example, DOST assisted a young couple who are new in the business of baking butterscotch, which is a mouthwatering mixture of chocolate, flour and eggs and generously topped with bits of cashew nuts. Because of its metallic foil packaging, the butterscotch can last from four to six months while the ones wrapped in multicolored cellophane may stay for one to two months only.

Since January there were 40 companies who asked for DOST's assistance for packaging and labeling, including nutritional analysis of their food products. Gelonga expects the number to more than double by the end of the year.

Export market

Many of those who asked for DOST's help in packaging and labeling are small businesses that wanted to gain a foothold in the malls and the lucrative export market.

In these areas, their product labels should not only be unique and attractive but should also conform with the Philippine laws and standards of the export market that require disclosure of ingredients, nutrition facts and shelf life, among others.

Among those enthusiastic to ask for DOST's assistance are entrepreneurs from Guimaras who sell preserves, cashew nuts, fruit juices and concentrates, dried mango slices, fruit-flavored *piaya* or flat cakes. Their strength is their creativity to improve on existing food items by enhancing their tastes such as adding fruits and other new flavors.

They also make their presence felt in the local market with their attractive labels. Unlike in Iloilo where competition is strong among makers of delicacies, Guimaras producers tend to help each other.

"Give it some three years and entrepreneurs in Guimaras will outdo their conservative counterparts in Iloilo," said Gelonga.

Batangas' loss is Apayao's gain

From page B3

Dr. Rodrigo Tamasay of the Apayao State College says Ortega's accomplishments are considered a breakthrough in upland agriculture.

Tamasay says Ortega has proved that lanzones, rambutan and durian are adaptable to what is known as "sloping land operational technology."

Ortega was named the Magsasakang Siyentista (farmer scientist) of the "Techno Pinoy" program, otherwise known as Farmer's Information and Technology Service (Fits) program of the Philippine Council for Agriculture Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD).

Knowledge sharing

Tamasay, 55, is Ortega's Fits manager, since the program required the need to link with an accredited Fits school.

"Under this program, the farmer-scientist must share his farm knowledge to the community, particularly farmers," Tamasay says.

Ortega's products surprised participants who attended a research and development forum organized by the Highland Agriculture and Resources Research and Development Consortium at the BSU here on Aug. 16-17.

Ortega says he has extensively shared his knowledge to Conner's farmers.

"Unfortunately, it appears that they do not receive enough support from the local government and agriculture officials," he says.

unlimited lifestyle options...

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **Centennial of La**
Naval's coronation /C4

■ **Sea Princess meets**
Lea Salonga /D1

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Website: www.inquirer.net/lifestyle

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

sms feedback: Inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Sma

Women's hope shines through

By Rowena C. Burgos

FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW, SOCORRO Arevalo, Lynnie Denilla, Betty Lourdes Tabanda and Mila Udang have made it their mission to improve the lives of women and their families through awareness and outreach and community service projects.

To assist these four women in their endeavors, Avon recently awarded each of them P100,000 through its Hello Tomorrow Fund, a global initiative that recognizes NGOs and individuals who empower women

WOMEN'S/C2

AVON Hello Tomorrow grantees Mila Udang, lawyer Betty Tabanda, Lynnie Denilla and Cory Arevalo

GERRY PEÑALOSA

WBO BANTAMWEIGHT WORLD CHAMPION

In a live exhibition fight

September 16, 2007 • 3pm
3/L Sportscenter
Metropolis Star Alabang

With special guests:
Freddie Roach
Christian Bautista
James Blanco

Call 842-2513 for details
Get your tickets now!

RINGSIDE BOXING CLUB

METROPOLIS ALABANG star

starmall
Tel. No. 724-4992

Date	Event
Sept. 1	Sipag at Tiyaga: No Bake Cakes • Scholastic's Harry Potter Event
Sept. 2	Raging Divas Grand Finals
Sept. 6	Rappenings Rap Contest
Sept. 8	Sipag at Tiyaga: Flip Flop/Slippers Making
Sept. 9	Pwede Pa Kami Star Contest for Grandparents
Sept. 13	Rappenings Rap Contest
Sept. 15	Sipag at Tiyaga: Chocolate Moulding • First Note Music Variety Show
Sept. 16	Carlo Aquino with Kollide Band
Sept. 20	Rappenings Rap Contest
Sept. 22	Sipag at Tiyaga: Novelty Items
Sept. 23	Iwa Moto Jao Ming Glutathione Mall Tour
Sept. 27	Rappenings Rap Contest
Sept. 29	Sipag at Tiyaga: Stuffed Toy Making
Sept. 30	MJD Anime Retro Powers Show

Tuesdays: Comedy Nights at Cuba Libre, 9pm
Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays: Live Band at Cuba Libre, 9pm
All Saturdays and Sundays: Mimes

starmall
Tel. No. 872-5249

Date	Event
Sept. 18	Alay ng FCCP sa Taga Las Piñas 2007
Sept. 29	National Skateboarding Championship with Red Horse Concert (Extreme Games Finals)

Tuesdays: Retro Nights
Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays: Live band at Cuba Libre

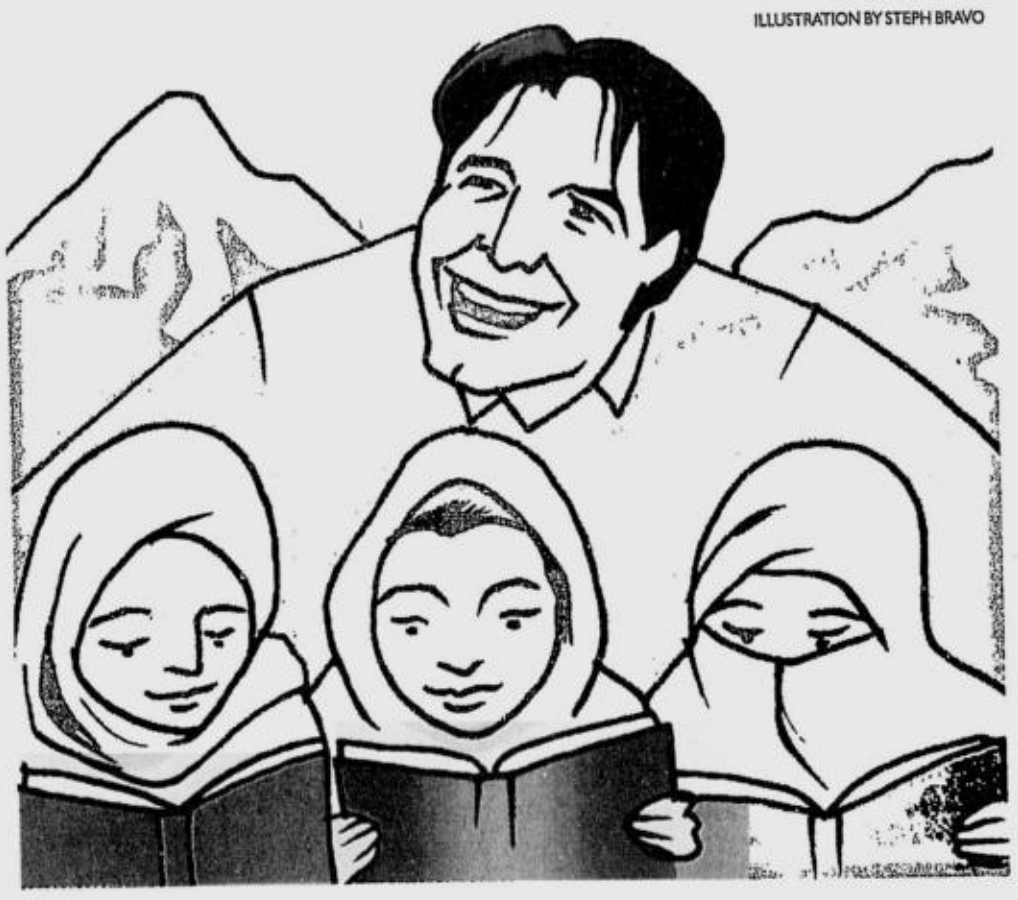
METROPOLIS ALABANG star
Tel. No. 842-2513

Date	Event
Sept. 1	Sipag at Tiyaga: Perfume Making • HSBC Badminton Championship
Sept. 2	GMA 7 "Mga Mata ni Anghelita" Mall Tour • Hand-Puppet Making Demo
Sept. 5	Acoustikahan Grand Finals
Sept. 8	Sipag at Tiyaga: Beadworks • HSBC Basketball Championship
Sept. 9	Sharlene San Pedro Mall Tour (Treat to Grandparents)
Sept. 15	Scholastic Event • Sipag at Tiyaga: Chocolate Moulding
Sept. 16	Scholastic Event • Gerry Peñalosa Boxing
Sept. 22	Sipag at Tiyaga: Stuffed Toy Making • Boxing Clinic by Gerry Peñalosa
Sept. 23	No Bake Cakes for Kids
Sept. 29	Sipag at Tiyaga: Novelty Items • Boxing Clinic by Gerry Peñalosa
Sept. 30	Jake Cuenca Fans Day • Beadworks for Kids

Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays: Live Band at Cuba Libre
All Sundays: Mimes

Turning stones into schools

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO



Nurse and mountaineer Greg Mortenson's book, 'Three Cups of Tea,' is a timely reminder of what it takes to achieve genuine peace today: education

By Queena N. Lee-Chua

IN 1993, AFTER FAILING TO REACH the top of K2, the world's second highest peak, US mountaineer Greg Mortenson stumbled upon Korphe, an impoverished Pakistan village in the Karakoram Mountains. The villagers, led by their chief Haji Ali, welcomed the ailing Mortenson and, with sizzling cups of tea, nursed him back to health. Mortenson promised to return to build a school for their children.

But Mortenson did not have money. An emergency-room nurse, he worked irregular shifts so he could do climbing in his spare time. Living from paycheck to paycheck, he slept in his old car at night.

Mortenson wrote 580 letters to politicians, movie stars, foundations. Six months later, all he received was a hundred-dollar donation from news anchor Tom Brokaw. But a climber friend read Brokaw's note of encouragement and decided to write a magazine article about the project.

When Jean Hoerni, a fellow mountaineer and a physicist, read the article, he decided to help. The cost of the school, Hoerni learned, was only US$12,000.

Three cups of tea

Mortenson returned to Pakistan and encountered problems—sly contractors, dangerous roads, uncooperative leaders. But the open-hearted and generous Mortenson made life-long friends, who became indispensable in his task. Mountain porters helped carry building materials into the most inhospitable terrain. A taxi driver sold his cab and became a dedicated assistant. Former Taliban fighters turned away from violence and helped him in his mission of peace. Most of all, they stopped supporting the oppression of women and started building schools for girls.

To inaugurate the project, Mortenson had tea for the third time with Haji Ali. "The first time you share tea with us, you are a stranger. The second time you take tea, you are an honored guest. The third time you share a cup of tea, you become family, and for our family, we are prepared to do anything, even die."

"Three Cups of Tea: Building Peace One School at a Time" is Mortenson's book (written with journalist David Oliver Relin) about how he became part of a Pakistani family and community, and how he built not just one, but 55 schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan over the next decade.

Inspirational and heart-warming, the book is a timely reminder of what it takes to achieve genuine peace today: education.

When a landslide cut off jeeps carrying wood for a school, the men of Korphe walked all night, clapping and singing, to aid Mortenson and his team. At the front of the line was a holy man.

Mortenson wrote, "The holy men of the villages aren't supposed to degrade themselves with physical labor. But he wouldn't back down, and he led our column of 35 men carrying roof beams all the way, all 18 miles to Korphe. He had polio as a child, and he walked with a limp, so it must have been agony for him. But he led us up the Braldu Valley, grinning under his load. It was this conservative mullah's way of showing his support for educating all the children of Korphe, even the girls."

At the end of the day, chief Ali showed his beloved Koran to Mortenson. "I can't read it," Ali said. "I can't read anything. This is the greatest sadness in my life. I'll do anything so the children of my village never have to know this feeling. I'll pay any price so they have the education they deserve."

Peace in our time

"Three Cups of Tea" is also a tale of adventure, with perilous roads to traverse and border guards to pacify. After the success of the Korphe school, and with financial support from Hoerni, Mortenson returned many more times to dangerous places, in the midst of civil war and bombings.

Mortenson survived close calls in Central Asia, but he did not have an easy time at home. After 9/11, the US government declared its "war on terror," and Mortenson was interrogated by the CIA. He faced a lot of government skepticism. While he was talking in the Capitol about the project, a Republican congressman interjected that US security, not Afghan schools, was the most important need of the moment. Here was what Mortenson had to say:

"I don't do what I'm doing to fight terror. I do it because I care about kids. Fighting terror is maybe seventh or eighth on my list of priorities. But working over there, I've learned that terror doesn't happen because some group of people somewhere like Pakistan or Afghanistan simply decides to hate us. It happens because children aren't being offered a bright enough future where they have a reason to choose life over death."

To the Pentagon, he gave this message: "As best as I can tell, we've launched 114 Tomahawk cruise missiles into Afghanistan so far. Take the cost of one missile tipped with a Raytheon guidance system, about US$840,000. For that much money, you can build dozens of schools that can provide tens of thousands of students with a balanced non-extremist education over the course of a generation. Which do you think will make us more secure?"

Far too much dying

Mortenson, who many people hope will win the Nobel Peace Prize, remained undeterred despite the hostile reactions. As his work spread, people began sending donations to the Institute. In one of his later trips, Mortenson sought the support of a powerful tribal leader, Commandhan Sadhar Khan.

"We fought with Americans, here in these mountains, against the Russians," said Khan. "And though we heard many promises, they never returned to help us when the dying was done."

"There has been far too much dying in these hills," Khan continued. "Every rock, every boulder that you see before you is one of my martyrs who sacrificed their lives fighting the Russians and the Taliban. Now we must make their sacrifice worthwhile. We must turn these stones into schools."

For more information on Mortenson's project, visit www.threecupsoftea.com. "Three Cups of Tea" (Penguin Books, 2006) is available in selected National Book Store branches.

Women's hope shines through

From page C1

through such projects.

Socorro Arevalo

A program director of A Home for the Angels Child Caring Foundation, Inc., Arevalo aids women and children in Baseco, Parola, Smokey Mountain, Paradise Heights and other underserved areas in Manila through alternative and creative approaches to early childhood care and development (ECCD). The Learn and Play Program she initiated trains mother-teacher volunteers to provide daycare services to pre-school-age kids. The program has been recognized by Unicef as one of the models in best practices in ECCD in the region.

Since 2004, Learn and Play has helped more than 200 women and children understand their rights; it has also helped women gain employment by developing their livelihood skills. "These trained mothers have also developed self-confidence and are now engaged in community volunteer work," Arevalo said. "They have participated in livelihood and income-generating projects of different organizations. Through the continuing seminars, their parenting skills, responsible parenthood and family life have improved. Moms who didn't finish elementary or high school have enrolled in skills training and livelihood projects."

On the other hand, Rachels Program, put up in 1989, has saved thousands of babies from abortion, directed mothers in pregnancy crisis situations and helped post-abortive women towards healing and reconciliation.

Arevalo will use the Avon grant to sustain and further expand the programs by networking with more volunteers and organizations. "A paradigm shift in terms of access to education must be introduced for parents and children, helping women move on from past mistakes, neglect and ignorance, and experience 'Hello Tomorrow' as the future of their family is at stake."

Lynnie Denilla

Established in 1992, the Zonta Club of Iloilo City II, Inc. has been raising awareness on violence against women, encouraging vigilant reporting of such cases and providing women with options to financially support themselves and their children.

Since 2005, Zonta Iloilo II has been initiating an Information and Education Campaign to Prevent Violence Against Women and Children. Seminars in Iloilo City's public schools teach students to recognize physical, psychological and sexual violence, early signs of abuse, relevant laws and institutions, and how to foster gender equality at home.

AREVALO, Denilla, Udang and Tabanda with Avon's HR Director Jen Garcia and president and GM Bob Briddon

The Avon Hello Tomorrow Fund helps movements toward women's empowerment

"Now, more women and children in Iloilo City are brave enough to expose their abusers because of their increased awareness, knowledge and understanding of rights and prerogatives. Existing support and security mechanisms also ensure victims are protected from their abusers," said club president Denilla.

Since 1998, the club's Shelter for Threatened Victims has been providing temporary refuge to women and children who are victims of domestic violence and rescued by the Iloilo City PNP Women and Children's Desk from their abusers.

In August 2004 to March 2005, Zonta Iloilo II organized Project Nanay: Baking and Food Preparation, a skills training and livelihood program, which taught idle wives income-generating schemes and food business opportunities.

"Since these women are now small entrepreneurs, they have helped improve the economic status of their families," Denilla said.

For Denilla, Avon and Zonta Iloilo II are allies in emancipating women from bondage.

"Avon empowers women towards economic sufficiency and independence while our club inspires young women to aspire for higher education, economic productivity and freedom to lead a life of dignity and quality."

Zonta Iloilo II will use the Hello Tomorrow Fund grant to produce and distribute more information materials such as leaflets, posters and comics.

Betty Lourdes Tabanda

Baguio City's Tabanda, an Integrated Bar of the Philippines board member, applied for Hello Tomorrow to continue improving the reproductive health care information and services available to women.

Her group, Balikatan, estimates that one in 20 indigenous women in their area get illnesses of the reproductive system, including cervical cancer, every year. Since 1998, Balikatan has been conducting awareness campaign on cancer prevention and detection.

According to Tabanda, educating indigenous women on the need for reproductive health care and correcting their physically harmful superstitious beliefs are Balikatan's main goals. The P100,000 grant will help provide proper medical orientation, examination and treatment to more women in Baguio City.

"In helping other women, we actually help ourselves become more empowered. Every woman has a right to make informed decisions about her body and have a better future," Tabanda says.

Mila Udang

Since 1998, Cagayan de Oro Blessed Hope Foundation, Inc. has been conducting values formation, skills training and livelihood seminars to urban poor women, streetchildren and the disabled.

The group also plans to establish its Bayanihan Community cooperative store. "Through this project, it will make the urban poor women financially productive, self-reliant, and most of all, boost their self-esteem," said Mila Udang, executive director of the organization founded by her husband Genesis, the group's president.

Udang said the P40,000 from the Hello Tomorrow Fund will be used for the construction of the store. The remaining P60,000 will be the cooperative's capital build-up. "The visibility of the project will create a ripple effect and inspire others to get involved, and hopefully, help us build a bigger membership base. This is a dream come true for us."

EMILY'S POST
Emily Marcelo

He's so not into her

DEAR EMILY,

I am in my mid-30s, married for seven years and have a 6-year-old son. My family is now based in the United States while I work in another country for a multi-national company.

In October 2005, I met someone at work. He is Italian, tall, handsome and very smart. He is divorced and battling for fair visitation rights for his son.

At first, it was just a harmless crush. We would go out after work for drinks with some friends. In March 2006, we invited him to dinner in our apartment and he told me he liked me.

I got so drunk that night and he comforted me, saying it would not change the way he felt for me.

Weeks later he invited me to have dinner with him... just the two of us and that was when I fell in love with him. I told him I had this crazy idea of going to Italy with him or to his place for the weekend. I found out he had a girlfriend in another city.

That did not stop me from seeing him. Since my work was contract-based and I was not sure if my contract would be extended, I decided I would rather enjoy whatever time we had together.

My contract got extended but he was not pleased. We decided to end the relationship though I was willing to give up everything for him. I went to his hotel room weeks later and was driven away. It was very traumatic for me.

My contract finally ended in October 2006. I never thought I would set foot in that country again but I was contacted by my former boss. So I went back in January.

He spoke to me just once. It was so awkward. We never tried to talk again. I tried to invite him though for some drinks after work to settle our differences but he declined.

All I wanted was for us to be friends again but he thought otherwise. We both got invited to a party a few weeks before the end of my contract and we were able to talk.

From there, without going into details, we spent one of the most wonderful nights I ever had. We were like old friends again. It was followed by a couple more nights together before I finally left the country.

When we talked for one last time he told me he liked the idea of being my lover but not in the future. But since I left I have not stopped thinking about him. I dream of him almost every night.

I plan to visit him and some friends this October. I am not sure if this is a good idea. I want to be sure of my feelings and his. Is he just trying to control his feelings because of our situation? Is there any future for us?

RIA

You're pining, hurting and thinking endlessly of him because you gave him your whole being while he only sated a human desire.

While your mind is enveloped, encompassed, and marinating in thoughts of him, he has already moved on and is continents away from you emotionally.

He got you effortlessly, and you may even have been deliciously alluring for a while—but as far as he is concerned that is the end of it. He is finished, done with you!

It's clear as day that you have no future with him. If there was even a speck of a chance of a life with you in the horizon, he would have laid out his plans himself—without your prodding.

Do not delude yourself that he is just protecting your marriage and all that hogwash.

No such thing, kid. A man in love is like a heat-seeking-missile once he has zeroed in on his target.

Sadly, you were never a target, let us just put it that way.

Brainwash yourself that meeting him was "part" of your work contract... That he had to evaporate from your life the moment you flew out of that country.

You had a great time with him for a while—savor it and roll the moments in your mind. Bring out those warm memories when you need them, but not just now.

First you heal and focus on what you have. Then, build on your interrupted relationship with your family. Try not to lose the present by crying your heart out for that recent past.

There may not be any future to warm you later if you do not let go.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. Log on to www.pbs.gov.ph and listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.

ROOTS AND WINGS
Cathy Babao-Guballa

'My brothers will always be the world to me'

This week, I give this space to my 16-year-old daughter, Pia. Here's an essay she wrote four years ago, when she was 12

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

AS A PARENT, YOU CATCH yourself once in a while wondering if you are doing right by your children. In a family that has known loss such as ours, the questions can become more complex.

This week, I give this space to my 16-year-old daughter, Pia. Below is an essay she wrote four years ago, when she was 12. Last week, she showed me a self-portrait where she is shown looking at her brother's picture.

Loss early in life imbues a child with a sense of wisdom way beyond his/her years. Coupled with it is a sense of sadness that will always be a part of that child. Rereading her essay again, I was struck at how vivid the images of our experiences as a family have really stuck to her head.

Pia knew loss at the tender age of 7 when we lost Migi in 1998. A child's grief is cyclical in the sense that it appears at every point in the various developmental stages. Perhaps now as a teenager her way of creatively processing her sadness is through photography. As parents, we really need to stop every now and then and really listen to our children. Not just see them, but really pay attention to them with eyes wide open, and listen to them not only with our ears but with our hearts as well.

In the same manner, they watch and listen to us all the time, so we always need to remember that every word or action has the potential to either make or break the child.

"All I Needed to Learn in Life... I Learned from My Younger Brothers"

Being an *ate* is hard work.

I should know, I was born into a family with two younger brothers. Older sisters often regard their younger siblings as pests, annoyances or simply those little brothers that you want to bite when you're *naiinis* or frustrated.

Being an *ate* myself, I won't deny the fact that, yes, my brothers can frustrate me sometimes. They, too, can be total monsters. But I don't focus on that. When they make me mad, I just remember all the good times we've had together, the lessons they've taught me and the lessons they are still teaching me as the days pass. I've learned everything I need to know from them, and they've taught me in the most unique ways.

My first younger brother Migi was born three years after me, in 1994. He was born with a heart disease called Tetralogy of Fallot. Living with a brother with a disease taught me that I should accept people's diseases or differences. I understood that some people are just born with special needs or differences, and that I should learn to respect them.

I remember that he taught me how to share. We used to share everything! We shared books, toys, even the same room. Most importantly, we were raised by great parents, together.

Another important virtue that I learned from him was to be patient. I remember some days when we would play and he would get too tired, his lips would turn blue, he'd turn pale and he would have to be placed in front of an air-conditioner or an electric fan while being rocked back and forth by our mom.

I never really complained when this happened. I understood that I had to be patient and wait until he was all right again. I realized that my baby brother had special needs. Until today, even if I know that God has called him home, I will never forget my Migi, the brother I had who taught me so much, without realizing that he did. He is always on my mind.

Happy and robust Leon

Then came Leon. He came into my life just three months after Migi became an angel. Leon seemed just so much like a sign from Migi saying, "*Ate*, you've got to move on now." Now, I am old enough to understand that God had to take my Migi but he also sent me little Leon to help me move on, to keep living my life. So much like the saying, "When God closes a door, he opens a window."

I totally dote on Leon. He is now a happy and robust 5-year-old who teaches me more lessons and reminds me of those little values I tend to forget.

He's got just about the greatest conscience. He is the first one to reprimand me if I do something wrong. And when I make a mistake, he always tells me that it's okay to lose and that I can just try again. He really does!

He also reminds me of the most unique things, especially not to have a boyfriend yet! When I get one, he says, his heart will hurt.

Leon is very intelligent for his age and really takes whatever he learns in school very seriously. Lately he has been reminding me that I should always eat fruits and vegetables. He is ever so sweet and has so much compassion for others.

The other day he told me, "*Ate*, this Christmas we've got to help poor people." Leon really doesn't realize how much he teaches others just by being his usual perky 5-year-old self.

A lot of people have commented that I'm a "goody-goody." I really don't mind being called such, because it makes me realize that I'm blessed to have grown up in such a stable family. My family is supportive and very willing to accept me for who I am. They have created who I am today.

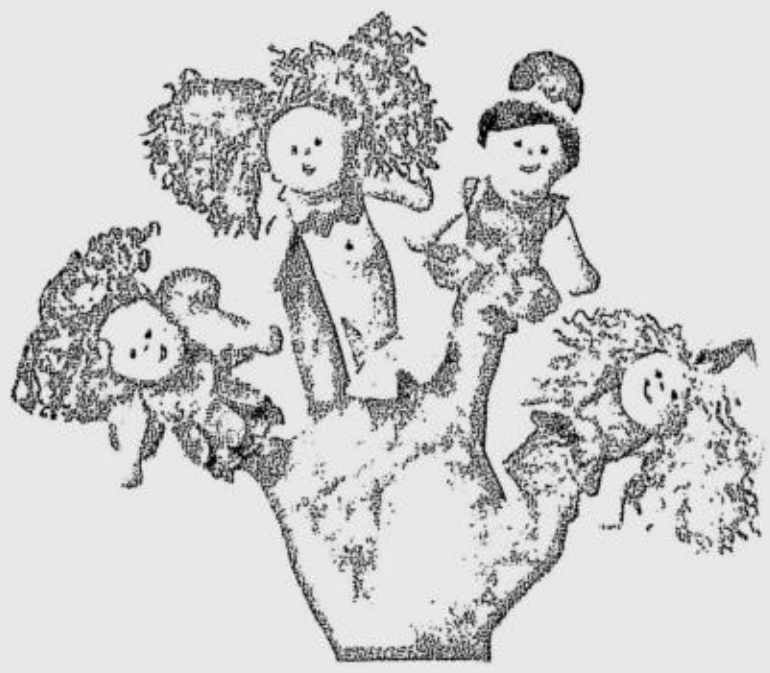
My brothers have been my biggest inspiration throughout my grade-school years, and I really haven't been through an English teacher yet who doesn't know about my brothers. This is the first time, though, that I've written about how much they really mean to me.

Through this, I want to thank them—Migi up in heaven who I know may even have been with me the whole time I was writing this, and sweet Leon who is my remaining little boy.

I just want them to know how much they mean to me. I want just the best for them. No matter what happens, whether they find out or not about this essay and whatever may happen during our lives, my brothers will always be the world to me.

Avoiding sibling rivalry

- WHEN THE FAMILY IS EXPECTING a new baby, parents should begin early to talk to and convince their older children that their help will be important in caring for their new baby brother or sister.
- Plan and carry out frequent "family activities" with all of your children. Avoid games and contests in which one of the children "wins" and the others "lose." Instead, look for activities or create scenarios where everyone is a winner if the entire family cooperates and works together.
- Parents need to spend time with each one of their children. Schedule a special day or time for each child, doing the things that the child wants to do.
- Role model good conflict resolution. If you and your spouse work through conflicts in a way that's respectful, productive and not aggressive, you increase the chances that your children will adopt those tactics when they run into problems with one another. If your kids see you routinely shout, slam doors and loudly argue when you have problems, they're likely to pick up those bad habits themselves.
- If your kids squabble over the same items—television, computers, video games—post a schedule that gives each child ample time to use the item of contention. This will teach them how to share.
- Make sure your child knows that he or she is loved, safe and needed.



FINGER-PUPPET dolls by Broadwings Enterprises

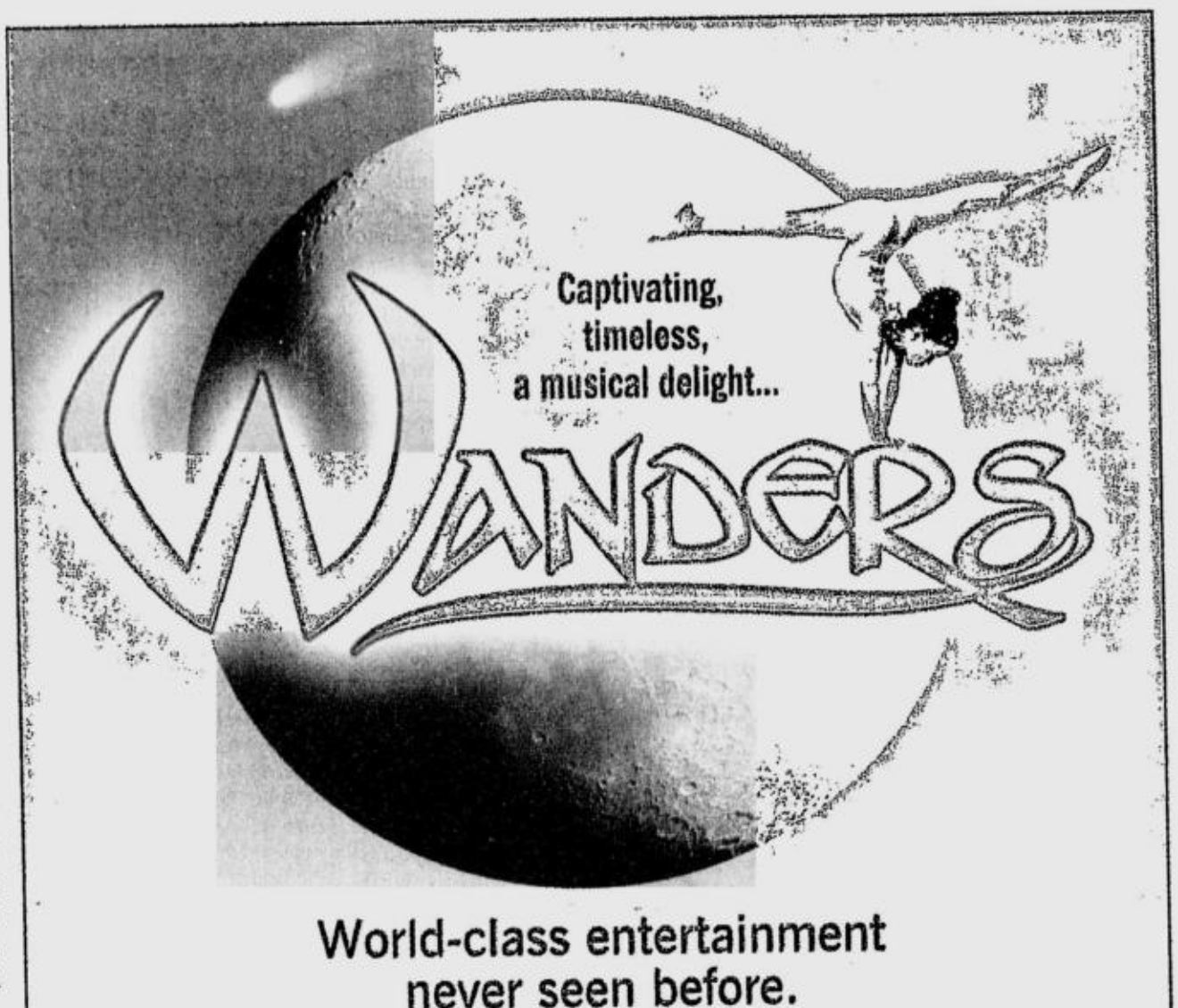
Benefit bazaar Oct. 19-20

ISABEL Daza with beaded black and white printed bag by Talimaya

TICKLED PINK, THE BENEFIT BAZAAR, will be held Oct. 19-20, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., at the Rockwell Tent, Makati. The look is New Age Zen in black and pink, the global breast cancer color, styled by Joseph Claravall. The bazaar will showcase rare items, mostly products for export ranging from women's wear and accessories, menswear, children's clothing and toys, home accessories, gifts, and a wide array of food. Specially designed items from ICanServe foundation are also available. Bianca Araneta, a supporter of the advocacy, is the event's signature model (6873942, e-mail icanserve@yahoo.com or visit www.icanserve.net).

THREE-TONED leather bag by Vintage Restore

WOODEN cuffs with silver detail by jewelry designer Bettina Osmeña



World-class entertainment never seen before.

"A must see show for the whole family..."

At the PAGCOR Grand Theater
Airport Casino Filipino
Parañaque City, Metro Manila
For inquiries contact tel. nos.
(632) 852-7758/54 • 851-7690
852-7752 • 852-7760
Log-on to www.casinofilipino-online.com

WANDERS souvenir items & tickets are available at the LE CIRQUE Boutique located at the ground floor of the Airport Casino Filipino

Presented by:
PAGCOR
Casino Filipino

Tickets are available at:
TICKETWORLD 891-9999
And all CASINO FILIPINO branches in Metro Manila

PURELY PERSONAL
Josephine Darang

Nation marks centennial of La Naval's canonical coronation

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO will lead dignitaries attending the centennial of the canonical coronation of Our Lady of La Naval at 4 p.m., Oct. 4, in Sto. Domingo Church.

Under the care and promotion of the Dominicans, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary of La Naval de Manila, easily the most lavishly decorated and the most historically rich Marian icon in the country, was canonically crowned in 1907 in the old Sto. Domingo Church in Intramuros.

It was the first canonical coronation of a Marian image in Philippine history and the authority was conceded to La Naval and the Dominicans by Pius X (now St. Pius X). The coronation drew the biggest crowd during its time—some 150,000 people—and was attended by leaders of the Catholic church around Asia. Fr. Mariano Rodriguez's description of the occasion is found in "Tifografico de Colegio de Sto. Tomas, 1908."

OLD STO. DOMINGO
Church in Intramuros which used to house La Naval

He wrote: "The throng has seldom if ever been equaled in Manila. Every available foot of space within sight of the stand erected for the coronation services was occupied, along the Paso Magallanes, Plaza de España and Plaza Sto. Tomas, the available window space of the Intendencia building and Dominican convent and the walls of the old city.

"Shortly after five o'clock the solemn march from the altar of the church to the coronation stand began. Following the image came Archbishop Ambrose Agius, Apostolic Delegate, accompanied by Bishop Jorge Barlin of Nueva Careles, and the bishops of Tunquin, Amoy and Hong Kong. The image was placed in front of the elevated stand, Archbishop Agius and the other bishops mounting the latter. As Archbishop Agius reached the top of the stand, he was met by Governor-General James F. Smith, who bore the crowns for both the Child and Mother and presented them to the Archbishop.

"Taking the crown of the Child first, Archbishop Agius made the Sign of the Cross, then placed the crown on the Child and repeated the ceremony with the crown of the Virgin.

"No addresses were delivered and no psalms chanted, but as soon as the coronation was completed, the vast throng of people broke forth in applause while a band rendered the national air, which was repeated by a second band, rockets and cannon crackers were exploded on the old wall, while simultaneous with the coronation service, a beautiful rainbow appeared in the east, which was greeted as an omen of peace and prosperity.

"The procession, headed by the image, then returned to the church where services were conducted until a late hour."

OUR LADY of La Naval on her feast day procession in Sto. Domingo Church, QC

Vigil

In celebration of the centennial, a Marian vigil will be held in Sto. Domingo Church at 7 p.m. On Sept. 8, a Mariology Congress will be held at Angelicum College. A Marian exhibit will open on the same day at the Santissimo Rosario Parish in the University of Sto. Tomas.

Tiples de Sto. Domingo will hold a Centennial Concert at 6 p.m., Sept. 15, at Philamlife auditorium.

Sculpture

Friends in Art (FIAT), Inc., in cooperation with the Alabang Garden Club, presents "Ukit Milagros," an outdoor exhibit of Marian-inspired garden sculptures carved from natural river stones. Exhibit is open 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sept. 8-21, at 101 University Avenue, Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa.

It features more than 30 stone sculptures hand-carved by Laguna artisans under the direction of Wawel Mercado. Call 0917-8312583 or e-mail wawelmercado@gmail.com.

Choosing Christ

Last year, Jesuit Communications began producing "Light Talk," a weekly talk show at 10 p.m., Mondays, on ABC-5. It started on Dream Satellite's TV Maria channel and will soon be seen on the international Mabuhay channel.

In the show, Bishop Chito Tagle and his guests share their thoughts on pressing issues like Filipino values, faith and politics, population, unemployment, health, and the environment.

Though airtime is free, JesCom is organizing a benefit dinner on Sept. 4 to be preceded by Bishop Chito's inspirational talk on "Choosing Christ in the World." The affair will be held at Pavilion A&B of the Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club. Tickets cost P3,000 each. Call 4265971 or e-mail jcf@admu.edu.ph.

Pilgrimage

A group of Filipinos will leave Oct. 14 for the Holy Land, Greece, Egypt and Dubai in a Cradles of Civilization Tour. Msgr. Amadeo Escañan will lead the group. Call Adams Travel at 5211651/38/91.

Commodore Francisco

Children, friends and relatives of Commodore Jose Francisco marked yesterday the 40th day of his passing. He died July 23, four days before his 98th birthday. I am asking readers to continue praying for the repose of the soul of "the grand old man of the Philippine Navy," quoting Ramon J. Farolan.

I was blessed to have met him through my friendship with his daughter Linda Francisco. Reading about his life as told to Coylee Gamboa made me realize there were still great men. Credited with founding the Philippine Navy, then called Philippine Naval Patrol, he served under Presidents Elpidio Quirino, Ramon Magsaysay and Carlos P. Garcia.

When he was laid to rest on July 28, the Philippine Marines and Philippine Navy gave him full military honors. Goodbye, commodore. Pray for our country.

Prayer requests

Mario Somero, executive director of the Loving Hands of Joseph and Mary Foundation, is offering the prayers of the children in Ephesus Home in Guiguinto, Bulacan. Those who want to be prayed for can text Mario at 0917-8176919. Last time, the children received 200 requests.

Ephesus turns 7 on Oct. 5. The good work continues. Those who wish to help can text the same number.

Waiting to fall

By Doris Trinidad
Contributor

YEARS AGO I BEGAN TO SUSPECT that something was not quite as it should be.

I was standing in line at the altar steps of a church in Green Meadows where the famed healer priest Corsie Legaspi was doing what he was famous for: healing people. And one by one as he touched them they seemed to turn jelly-like and keeled over backward in the phenomenon known as "slain by the spirit."

But something was the matter with me. While the multitude around me, almost entirely, fell in picturesque slow motion, caught promptly by catchers appointed for the purpose and laid on their backs on the floor, I remained disturbingly upright; obviously, embarrassingly unslain.

It was small consolation that my friend Henrietta beside me likewise stood her ground. Incidentally, this friend has lately, and kudos to her, attained to the category of The Fallen, or shall we call it The Illustrious Order of the Slain.

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

Healing Masses

For some weeks past I have been attending Healing Masses every Wednesday afternoon at the Janssen Hall of Christ the King Seminary.

These Masses are part of the mission of the Bethesda Springs of Hope Healing Ministry which also conducts outreach activities in some provinces as well as regular Healing Masses in Greenhills and Makati.

The Masses at Christ the King are officiated by a charismatic priest, Fr. Mario Bije, SVD. Besides being gifted with remarkable charism, Father Mario is also a passionate gardener. The vast seminary compound is his garden and he admits there is nothing to approximate the exultant joy he feels when he is communing with green and growing and blooming things.

I go to the Healing Masses as often as I can. Some places seem to have a certain drawing power, as if extending tensile arms that reach out to enfold you. This place is one of them. Invariably at some point during the Mass I realize, often to my surprise, that I'm happy. It's hard to describe or explain it. Some would call it Presence. Other terms for it would be Peace or Joy or Being in the Moment. To myself I describe it as Awareness of the Presence of Love.

As I said it could be the place; it could be the people in the place, which you would think unlikely, because these are not people you would ordinarily associate with overwhelming happiness or contentment.

They are the sick and people who care about and take care of them. They are the wounded in body or spirit; the broken in some way, or survivors of sickness and brokenness who are now giving back the gifts they have been given. By some spiritual alchemy the hall is filled with hope and trust and thanksgiving and the paradox of being happy without knowing why one is happy.

Spiritually slain

Oh, but I'm not forgetting the fact that the source of all those purportedly uplifting words above, alas, after all, has not fallen.

Of course I don't go around tearing my hair over it. I have gotten used to being left standing in the midst of the spiritually slain like a tree in a forest of felled logs.

I can't help being curious, though, about the phenomenon and have asked several people what it felt like, what triggered the fall, etc. Most of them said it was a rather delicious, peaceful sensation, like being cradled or rocked as in a lullaby. Some said it did not involve losing consciousness, as in fainting; that they knew they were falling but simply couldn't resist.

My friend Henrietta, now an inveterate and habitual "faller," told me it was just a matter of letting go and totally relaxing. She said even while walking altarward she already felt indescribably happy, and at times before the priest could start praying over her she was already in delicious descent.

> During church healing sessions, I don't relish the thought of keeling over, supposedly into the arms of a stranger who might be looking the wrong way at the precise moment and might fail to catch me. Perhaps some part of my mind is squeamish about being laid supine on the floor

She hinted that maybe there was something in me that was resisting the idea of falling; that I was not letting go.

Squeamish

I don't know about that. It's possible that, subconsciously, I don't relish the thought of keeling over, supposedly into the arms of a stranger who might be looking the wrong way at the precise moment and might fail to catch me. Perhaps some part of my mind is squeamish about being laid supine on the floor.

Suppose the old lumbar arthritis attacks and makes it impossible for me to get up? What mortification! You could rightfully say I am not ready for the occasion.

I keep at it anyway, approaching the altar with the purest of intentions and closing my eyes and listening to the priest's fervent invocation for the healing of my infirmities. At times I swear I felt a sort of pressure on my forehead. Was the good priest giving me a slight push, maybe impatient himself for my downfall? I stagger, a little unsteady on my feet—but that is all. No falling today, baby.

Do I really care? Am I just a little worried or insecure about being bypassed in a manner of speaking by the Slayer? Should I be? My Inner Teacher assures me there is no need to fall, actually; that healing is accomplished regardless of posture or place. That one need not be struck by lightning to partake of the Light.

Of course, of course. But one does get more than a little curious. Meantime here I still am, waiting to fall. And that catcher better keep his eye on me when that happens, if it happens.

UP ALUMNI Association first vice president Chitong Rivera, UP president Emerlinda Roman, Outstanding Professional Award winner Yolanda Bello Pajaro and UPAA president Gari Tiongco

Outstanding UP professional

YOLANDA "GING" BELLO PAJARO, founder and owner of Filipino shoe brand Via Venetto, was one of the Outstanding Professional Award winners at the recent University of the Philippines General Faculty-Alumni Homecoming.

Theme of the event held at UP Diliman's Bahay ng Alumni was "UP Alumni: Kagalingang Pandaigdigan, Damdaming Pilipino."

The award recognizes UP alumni for their knowledge and expertise and accomplishments and for bringing the UP spirit of service to the country.

The UP Alumni Association's first vice president Chitong Rivera and president Gari Tiongco, and UP president Emerlinda Roman presented the award for Outstanding Professional for business administration.

Pajaro, a former Speech and Drama professor, has become a major leader in the local footwear industry with the Via Venetto brand. Her top-of-the-line pieces marry style and function.

Filipino edition of lifestyle mag debuts September

SUMMIT MEDIA LAUNCHES THIS September the Philippine edition of Town & Country magazine.

Town & Country Philippines will be the first foreign edition of the oldest continuously published lifestyle magazine in America.

The American magazine has been around for the past 160 years, promoting good manners, good sense and good fun.

Thomas Wolf, senior vice president for Hearst Magazines International, said the company trusted Summit Media, which would publish the local edition, "to put out a magazine that would represent the Town & Country brand the right way."

Summit Media earlier came out with local editions of Hearst Publications' Seventeen, Cosmopolitan and Good Housekeeping. It has also brought a local flavor to international titles FHM, Top Gear, Marie Claire and Men's Health.

Town & Country Philippines, to be sold at P150 a copy, will have Monique Villonco as editor and Mia Borromeo as editor-at-large.

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/lifestyle

Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

SPECIAL guests Ligaya Salonga, Girlie Rodis and Lea Salonga-Chien

The new Infinity Privilege Card drew an amazing roster of participating merchants ranging from luxury resorts like Nami, Discovery Suites, Plantation Bay and Pearl Farm to luxury pampering services like Beverly Hills and Urban Spa

TESSA!
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

Infinity of wonders

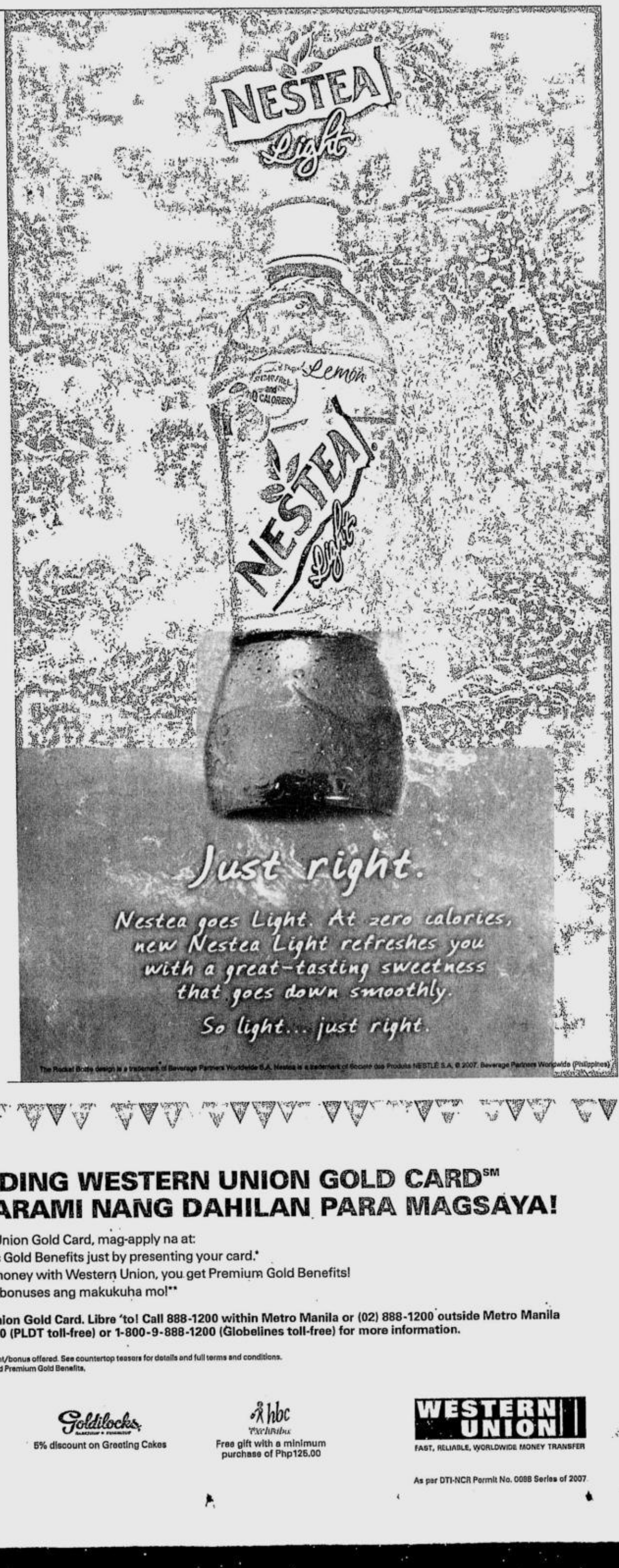
IS THERE ANYTHING BEYOND Infinity? The folks at Smart Communications have just provided the answer, and it is a resounding "Yes!"

The telco's new Infinity Privilege Card was recently launched at the Rizal Ballroom of Makati Shangri-La. This first-of-its-kind exclusive card offers a perfect synergy of innovation and privileges, with a simply amazing roster of participating merchants ranging from luxury resorts like Nami, Discovery Suites, Plantation Bay and Pearl Farm to luxury pampering services like Beverly Hills and Urban Spa to luxury electronic gadgets like PowerMac and Nokia.

With all these name brands offering raffle prizes, lots of Infinity subscribers went home happily after the event, none more so than the lucky winner of the Nokia E90 mobile phone. Street buzz is that the backlog of orders for the unit has over 300 names, so this new Communicator is clearly a favorite among business executives, thanks to its multirange features and capabilities.

Total Solutions president **Mandy Ochoa** is in charge of

INFINITY/ D2



Your World of Privileges

ANG MAS MATINDING WESTERN UNION GOLD CARD℠ LIBRE AT MAS MARAMI NANG DAHILAN PARA MAGSAYA!

Kung wala ka pang FREE Western Union Gold Card, mag-apply na at:
- Automatically entitled ka sa Basic Gold Benefits just by presenting your card.*
- Every time you Send or Receive money with Western Union, you get Premium Gold Benefits! Mas marami pang discounts and bonuses ang makukuha mo!**

Sign up for the improved Western Union Gold Card. Libre 'to! Call 888-1200 within Metro Manila or (02) 888-1200 outside Metro Manila (NDD rates apply) or 1-800-1-888-1200 (PLDT toll-free) or 1-800-9-888-1200 (Globelines toll-free) for more information.

* Subject to Terms and Conditions for each particular discount/bonus offered. See countertop teasers for details and full terms and conditions.
** Existing cards are still valid and entitled to the Basic Gold and Premium Gold Benefits.

Air Philippines
7% discount on Published Fares (website or textsite bookings only)

DAVID'S SALON
15% discount on facial and hair services (cash transactions)

DHL ALL THE WAY
$5.00/USD discount on International outbound transactions only for a min. $12.00/USD transaction (not applicable to Jumbo Box, Jumbo Jr. and Express Pallet)

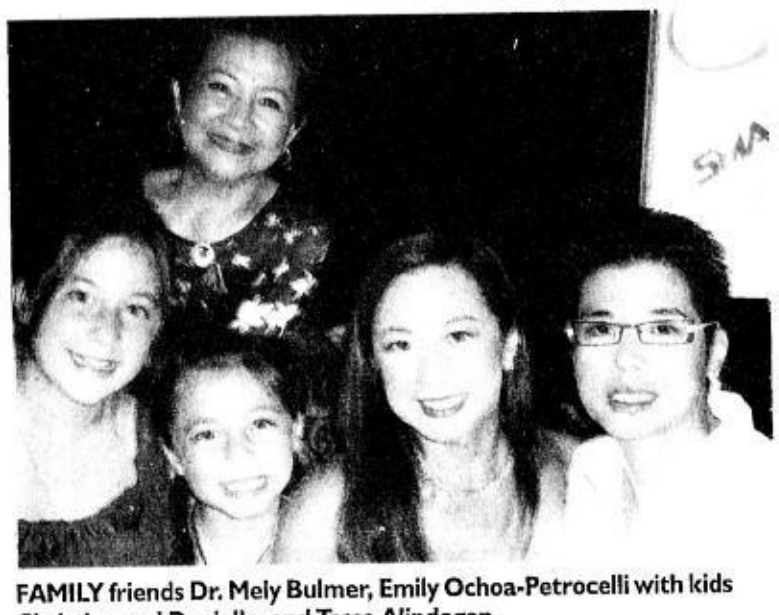
Goldilocks
5% discount on Greeting Cakes

hbc
Free gift with a minimum purchase of Php125.00

WESTERN UNION
FAST, RELIABLE, WORLDWIDE MONEY TRANSFER

As per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0088 Series of 2007

© 2007, Western Union Holdings, Inc. All rights reserved.



FAMILY friends Dr. Mely Bulmer, Emily Ochoa-Petrocelli with kids Christina and Danielle, and Tessa Alindogan

SMART and Kipling's guests Ai Ai Galvez, Gil Chua, Carceller and PLDT Smart president Polly Nazareno

EVENT host Johnny Litton with Urban Spa's Irene Ibañez and Stephanie Co

Infinity of wonders

From page D1

NOKIA FAMILY. Nikka Abes, Sigfrid Karlsson and Sandie Poblador

MARTIN Galvez, Smart Infinity's top lady Julie Carceller and Kipling's owner Pete Villalon

SMART Infinity girls Jen Sagcal, Ria Romero and Grace Ocampo

EDD Fuentes, Leah Puyat and Anton Barretto

KIPLING'S boys Gino Yabut, Elbert Cuenca and Benjo Ramos

PILAR Teehankee flanked by Peachy Veneracion and mother and daughter Shirley and Kim Teehankee

merchant accreditation and management of the IPC program. He fielded in numerous merchants from all over the country, including top hoteliers and resort owners. I was hoping to win a treatment package from Emphasis Salon since I practically live there. Alas, I was infinitely unlucky in the raffle.

The evening's hosts, **Johnny Litton** and I, drew so many names that it seemed like more than half of the guests were called to claim the wonderful prizes. Smart Infinity's dynamic **Julie Carceller**, department head of the Infinity Business Group, was all excited about awarding two lucky guests a set of diamond-encrusted rings and cufflinks, specially designed and crafted by **Giuseppe Troisi** of Rositi Jewels.

Hitting two birds with one stone, the evening was also the official introduction of the Smart Infinity BDO Platinum MasterCard. New cardholders experience world-class services and VIP assistance that only BDO and Infinity can provide. Surely there must be a tad more space in our wallets for one more piece of plastic fantastic.

Top whiskey bar

Smart Infinity has been chock full of events lately. Last week, they teamed up with Kipling's Bar at Mandarin Oriental and produced an exclusively intimate cocktail party showcasing its Smart Universe, with the finest cigars and whiskeys from Kipling's and the finest food from Mandarin, all served by waiters clad in formal black tie and tails, no less.

Chosen and awarded by Whisky Magazine as a Great Whisky Bar of the World, Kipling's Bar is one of only three other bars in all of Asia to receive such a prestigious certification. Small wonder as the rich, elegant interiors are so inviting that guests can very well lounge for hours as they savor their single malts and Cubans.

Kipling's Bar owner **Pete Villalon** was telling me the difference between a single-malt whisky and a blended scotch. One makes me blanch and the other makes me blench but a true aficionado can wax poetic on the subject.

As at all Smart events, the raffle is always a highlight, and with the new IPC card merchants onboard, the loot gets even more alluring. Another lucky winner bagged a Nokia E90, so the quickest route to getting one might be to just keep attending Smart's events.

As a budding singer and unlucky rafflegoer, the highlight of the night for me was the special performance of back-to-Broadway artist **Lea Salonga-Chien**. Technically perfect in her vocal range, Lea would be my dream partner for "Celebrity Duets." I had tears in my eyes as she crooned her hits from "Miss Saigon" and other musicals.

My jaw dropped in admiration at such awesome talent. Trying to absorb anything that might help my singing, I paid close attention to every detail, even the angle and distance of the mic to her mouth. Unfortunately, no amount of emoting or drama on my part can mask the fact that her voice is just unique.

"ALL-STAR K!" show with Frederick Peralta, Wyngard Tracy, Allan K, Sea Princess, Jaya and Jessica Bunevacz

Along her journey from Annie to Fantine in "Les Miserables," Lea is singing with more meaning and perfection. She said it's somehow because of becoming a mother to her cute little girl, **Nicole**. She is here for a two-week break before flying back to New York with her affectionate mother, **Ligaya Salonga**.

An important tip she gave me was that singing power should come from the core. I shall have to try that on next Saturday's "Celebrity Duets." Meanwhile, catch our "CD" gang's appearance on "All Star K!" tonight on GMA.

Teehankee photos

Our city never runs out of interesting places and exhibits to see. Let me end with a triptych of artistic to dos.

Recently, accomplished photographer **Raul Teehankee** unveiled his photo exhibit focusing on the wonders of Swiss and French life and landscapes. Having lived there for over two years, Raul's keen eye captured varied subjects such as a highly energetic triathlon race and a candid photo of legendary actress **Sophia Loren**.

Mercedes Benz presented the Teehankee exhibit along with major sponsors such as Shangri-La Plaza, Samsung and Epson, to name a few. Aside from photography, Raul continuously involves himself with the Department of Tourism's projects to bring tourists to our shores.

Rupert Jacinto images

Still in the realm of photography, renowned **Rupert Jacinto** shall be presenting a photo/computer graphics exhibit tomorrow, Sept. 3, at the St. Francis Shangri-La Place in Ortigas. The exhibit, "Images: Tokyo and Nieuw Art," is a vast display of 80 works consisting of digital works on canvas, acrylic painting, murals of mixed media and photograph images.

Claude's art

Lastly, acclaimed artist-sculptor-chef **Claude Tayag** has an upcoming exhibit, "Palate/Palette," at Alliance Française de Manille on Sept. 6. In his watercolor travelogue, multifaceted Claude captures images with his spontaneous sketches of local markets, sidewalk eateries and food hawkers.

Do drop by Alliance Française's Total Gallery to check out this exciting exhibit which runs until the end of September. E-mail cultural@alliance.ph or call 8957441 for details.

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

SMART Wireless Consumer Division head Bong Mojica

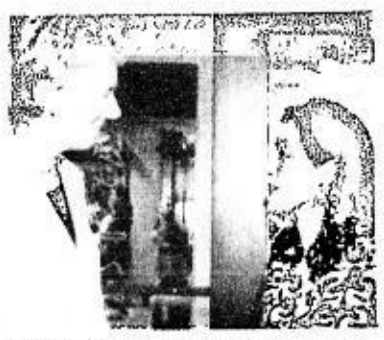
MASTERCARD head Poch Villareal and Punta Fuego/Taal Vista GM Alfredo Roca

TOTAL Solutions president Mandy Ochoa with his mother, Dr. Mely Bulmer

FUNTASTIC International owners Angie and Rex Daryanani

SALA Restaurant and People's Palace owners Chico Angeles and Colin Mackay

LORRAINE SCHUCK, John Defensor, Amiel Cabanlig and Neil Rombua

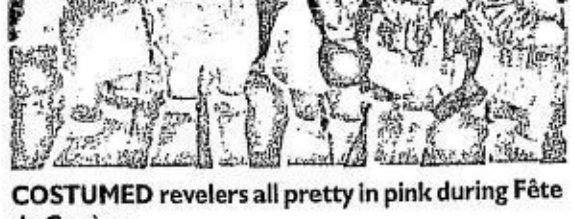


DEPUTY Head of Mission of the Embassy of the Swiss Confederation Irene Fluckiger with Nenet Sarmiento Schmid, a former resident of Zurich now living in Manila

FATHER and son. Raul and José Raoul Teehankee

SEN. PIA Cayetano

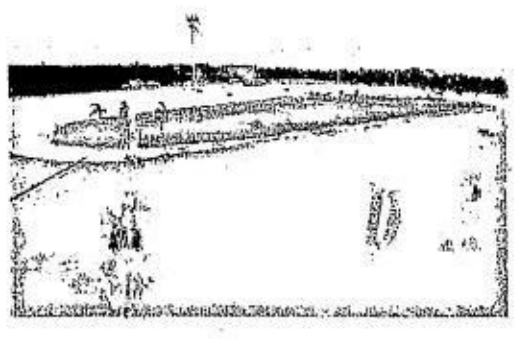
SWIMMERS at the 5ÉME Triathlon de Genève



COSTUMED revelers all pretty in pink during Fête de Genève

MONSIEUR Philippe Guenat

AMBASSADOR Dacio Castillo, ambassadeur de l'Honduras, World Trade Organization



WITH HSBC's Mabuhay Miles Visa, traveling to (clockwise from left) Cagayan de Oro, Camarines Sur or Ilocos Sur is a few bonus points away.

Have card, will travel

TRAVELING BUDdies Marielle Santos, Sara Black and Alexi Alunan can't get enough of the beach, and they often head for hotspots like Cebu, Boracay and Bohol.

"We research and organize the things we want to see and do, so we won't miss out on anything," says Santos. "We also make it a point to find the best food joints, because we love to eat!"

If, like their *barkada*, you also like traveling and eating out, HSBC's Mabuhay Miles Visa is the card just for you.

"The HSBC Mabuhay Miles Visa offers the best conversion rate of any credit card mileage program, allowing you to get the most bonus points/miles for your money," says Suresh Nanoo, HSBC's senior vice-president and head of marketing. "Every P45 you charge to your card earns you one bonus point/mile. Use your card to buy groceries, gas up, shop, or even pay your utility bills, and with every peso, you're one step closer to a free vacation."

If you gas up at a Caltex station, you get a three-percent rebate in addition to the bonus points/miles earned.

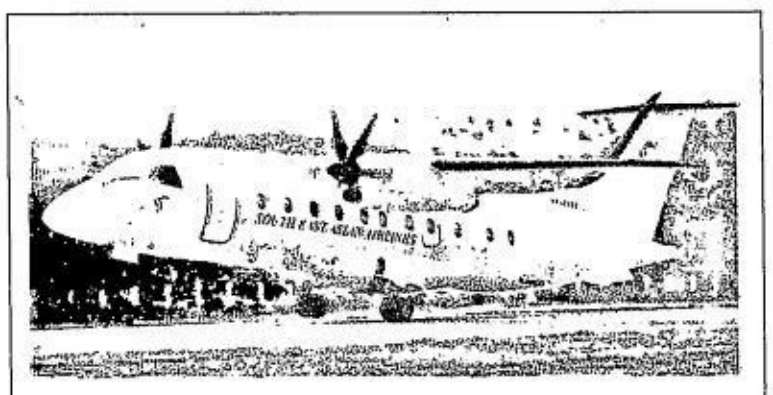
With FastFlights, HSBC Mabuhay Miles Visa cardholders can also charge to their credit cards the additional bonus points/miles they need at P1.25/mile. Even better, the bonus points/miles purchased with the card earns even more bonus points/miles.

There's more! Until Nov. 30, get 50-percent off on all FastFlights transactions. When you buy additional bonus points/miles (normally P1.25 for each bonus point/mile), you get two bonus points/miles for the price of one.

"HSBC Mabuhay Miles cardholders can even double or triple their bonus points/miles by patronizing HSBC's Triple Miles partner merchants," adds Nanoo. HSBC Mabuhay Miles Gold cardholders earn three bonus points/miles, while Mabuhay Miles Classic cardholders earn two bonus points/miles for every P45 spent at Triple Miles partner establishments.

This means HSBC Mabuhay Miles Visa cardholders can earn trips to places like Camarines Sur, Cagayan de Oro, Laoag, Bacolod, Hong Kong, Singapore, and other local or international destinations where PAL flies.

Call 85800, visit www.hsbc.com.ph or your nearest HSBC branch.



SPECIAL BORA PROMO PACKAGE

South East Asian Airlines (SEAIR) and Boracay Regency Beach Resort have partnered to offer travelers a special promo package of only P9,745+ per person. Based on triple sharing, this limited offer is inclusive of roundtrip airfare, four days three nights accommodation, daily breakfast and transfers. Purchase period is until Nov. 15 while travel period is valid until Nov. 24. SEAIR's web site is www.flyseair.com (tel. 8490100) while Boracay Regency Beach Resort's is www.boracayregency.com (5231234).

Set sail with Asia's favourite cruise line.

Now cruising Australia. Hop-on, mate!

Let the Star-guide you to a new experience

starts at $352*

4-Night cruise Dec 07, 2007

Melbourne • Sydney • Brisbane

Avail our *Early Bird Fares* **NOW!** Just book your cruise on or before **October 31, 2007** and enjoy a fun-filled vacation that only Star Cruises can provide. SuperStar Gemini offers world class entertainment, luxurious accomodation, full board meals, sports and fun activities for the whole family.

* Rates are per person on Inside Stateroom, twin sharing (cruise fare only). Valid only for the specified sailing dates. Subject to Star Cruises terms & conditions.

4-Night Cruise $352
Brisbane • Whitsundays • Townsville • Cairns
Dec. 11, 2007

5-Night Cruise $446
Fremantle • Esperance • Adelaide
Nov. 30, 2007

7-Night Cruise $565
Singapore • Komodo • Bali • Darwin
Nov. 18, 2007

Exciting cruises up to 26-nights are also available, so hurry and call now!

METRO MANILA AGENTS:

Cruise Shop Plus	439 0360
GSA Cruises	706 7245
Horizon Travel	306 1500
Infinite Travel	521 5125
Oltremare Tours	521 7690
Pan Pacific Travel	243 6666
Rajah Travel	523 8801
Travel Unlimited	844 2561
Uni-Orient Travel	243 3888

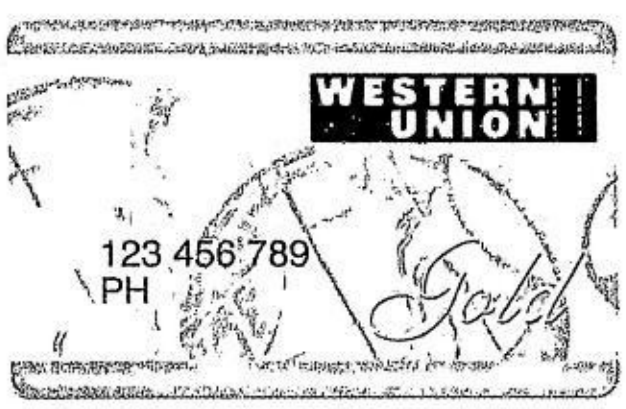
PROVINCIAL AGENTS:

Ties That Travel (Pampanga)	(045) 625 5548
Cebu Fortune Travel (Cebu)	(032) 234 2151
Destinations Specialist (Cebu)	(032) 232 2454
Grandeastasia Travel (Davao)	(082) 224 2801
Konstura & Travel Corp (Cagayan De Oro)	(088) 856 5678

Alternatively, you can log on to www.starcruises.com

STAR CRUISES
The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific

ANG MAS MATINDING WESTERN UNION GOLD CARD℠



Your World of Privileges

TAG-ULAN TREATS MULA SA WESTERN UNION GOLD CARD!*

ABENSON
- P500 off on automatic washing machine*
- P500 off on two-door refrigerator (frost or no-frost)*
- Free Hanabishi 'The Wind' (40.64cm) desk fan for a minimum purchase of P15,000 worth of Audio-Visual appliances* (any brand)

- Two free servings of dessert (buko pandan, leche flan or ice cream) for a minimum purchase of P650*
- Free Sisig (pork, tuna, chicken or Pampanga) for a minimum purchase of P1000*
- Free Grilled Pusit for a minimum purchase of P1500*

Goldilocks
- Free Caramel Popcorn Big for a minimum single-receipt purchase worth P200*

ELECTROWORLD
- Free 1GB SD Memory Card with purchase of Canon or Kodak Digital Camera*
- Free 1 GB USB Drive with purchase of any computer package (brands included: HP, Acer, Acetech, Lenovo; no minimum purchase required)*

Just present your card together with the discount coupon at the indicated establishment. **Call 888-1200** (Metro Manila), **02-888-1200** outside Metro Manila (NDD rates apply) or **1-800-1-888-1200** (PLDT toll-free), or **1-800-9-888-1200** (Globelines toll-free) for more information.

*Discount coupons available at select Western Union Agent locations. Terms and Conditions apply. See flyers for details. Promo duration is from July 1, 2007 - September 30, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2860, Series of 2007.

© 2007 Western Union Holdings, Inc. All rights reserved.

WESTERN UNION
FAST, RELIABLE, WORLDWIDE MONEY TRANSFER

JSSP officers Letty Syquia, chair; Helmut Gaisberger, vice president; and Kay Siazon, founder

ALGA Martel, chairperson of the ball; Madame Silvia Schuff of Argentina; Agnes Huibonhoa, co-chair of the ball; Marinel Carandang

AMBASSADOR Ameen Wali of Saudi Arabia, Ambassador Jorge Montero of Chile, Ambassador Juan Felipe Pitty of Panama

AMBASSADOR Herbert Jaeger of Austria; Washington Sycip, JSSP adviser; Marixi Prieto, chairman, Philippine Daily Inquirer; (standing) Consul of Bulgaria Rene Locsin Ledesma; Consul of Monaco Fortune Aleta Ledesma, Johann Strauss Society of the Philippines president

Johann Strauss Society holds dinner musicale

I-treat sila ngayong
Grandparents' Day
September 9!

SM
SUPERMALLS

THE JOHANN STRAUSS SOCIETY OF THE Philippines (JSSP) held recently a dinner-dance musicale that saw the induction of its officers and board at the Ballroom of Mandarin Oriental Manila.

The event was organized by the steering committee headed by president Fortune Ledesma, VP Olga Severino Martel and secretary Agnes Huibonhoa.

The ballroom was decked with red and white roses and buntings in the colors of the Austrian flag in honor of the Austrian waltz king Johann Strauss II.

The artists featured were Austrian pianist Ernest Hoetzl, who played Mozart's Fantasy in D Minor; premier Philippine soprano Rachelle Gerodias and noted tenor Lemuel de la Cruz, who sang arias from popular operas.

Ambassador Herbert Jaeger of Austria and JSSP founder and president emeritus Kay Siazon inducted the officers:

Letty Syquia (chair), Fortune Aleta Ledesma (president), Olga Severino Martel and Helmut Gaisberger (vice presidents), Huibonhoa (secretary), Charisse Chuidian (assistant secretary), Fanny Blanco (treasurer), Margie Ortiz Luis (assistant treasurer); and Betty Chua, Cristina Belton, Chit Gohu, Johnny Litton, Mila How, Rod Cornejo, Mike Varela, George Yang and Ed Yap (directors).

The board of advisers include Ambassador Jaeger, Imelda Cojuangco, Mely Hechanova, consul general of Austria to the Philippines Washington Sycip, Sen. Jamby Madrigal, Susie Ortigas and Nedy Tantoco.

The Cultural Center of the Philippines received a substantial donation from Cojuangco, Hechanova, honorary consul of Peru Francis Chua and Betty Chua.

Other donors: BA Securities, CATS Motors, SM Group of Companies, F&C Jewelry, FF Cruz Sr., Mila How, Ambassador Alfredo Yao and Zesto Corp., Filipinas Palm Oil Processing. Inc., Waterfront Container Leasing Co. Inc., San Miguel Corp., Mandarin Oriental Manila, Pagcor, Meralco and Bulgari.

Ambassadors and consuls from 32 countries were present. Seated at the table of Ledesma were Ambassador Jaeger, Martina Corrado, Consul of Bulgaria Rene Ledesma, Alex and Marixi Prieto of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Unesco ambassador Preciosa Soliven, Sycip, Philippine Tatler editor Anton San Diego, Consul of Gambia Agnes Huibonhoa and Litton.

Ambassador Mario Schuff of Argentina, Madame Silvia Schuff, Ambassador Jorge Montero of Chile and Madame Johanna Montero, Ambassador Peter Sutter of Switzerland, Madame Irene Fluckiger, and Ambassador Erendira Paz Campos of Mexico were at the table of Martel.

At the table of Syquia were Ambassador Joshua Sagi of Israel, Madame Hannah Sagi, Philippine Ambassador to Japan Domingo Siazon and Madame Kay Siazon, former Senator Loi Ejercito, How and Helen Ong.

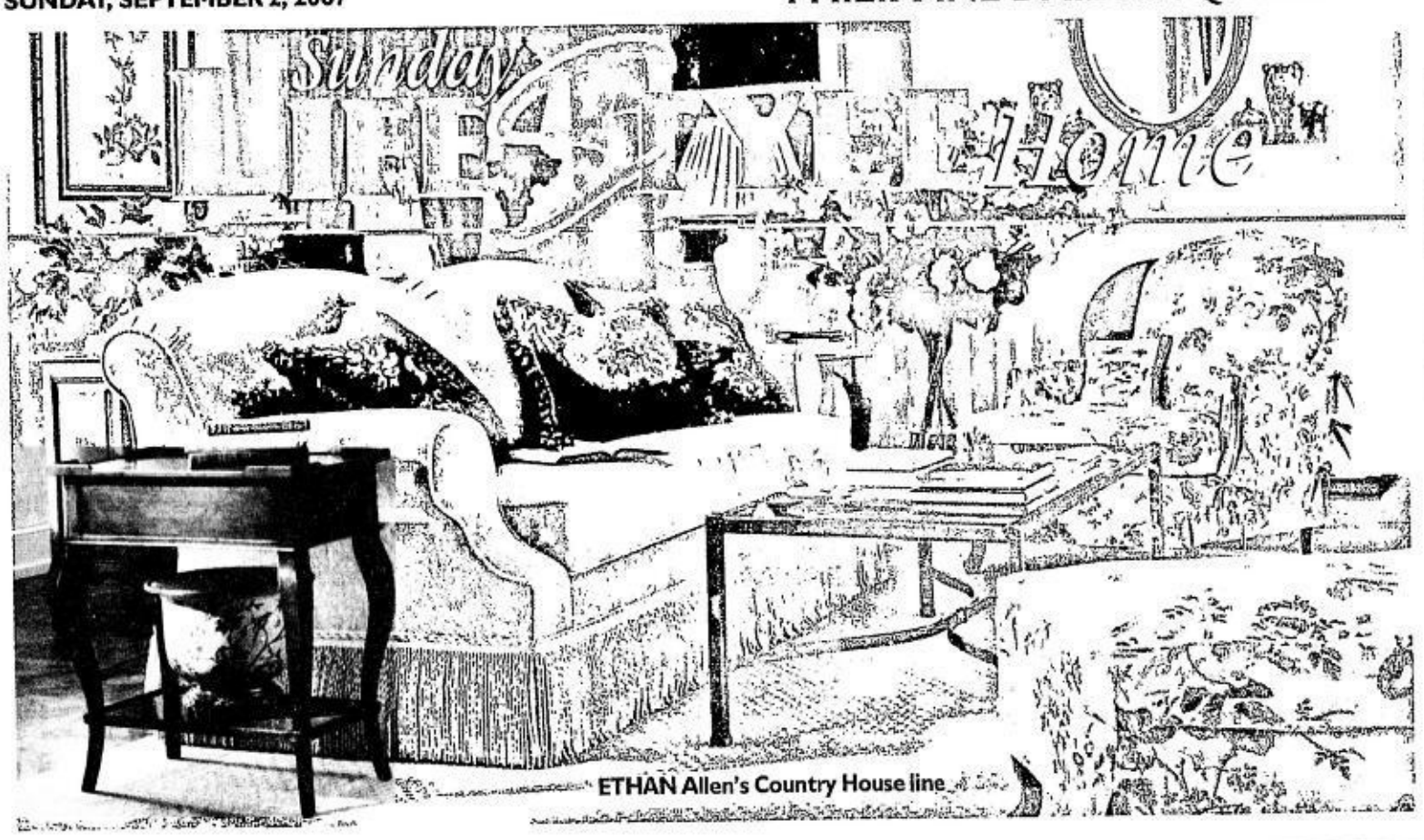
Other members of the diplomatic corps present were Ambassador of Japan Ryuichiro Yamazaki, Ambassador of Italy Ana Rubens Fedele and Madame Cosetta Fedele, Ambassador of Thailand Asha Dvitiyananda, and the ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Egypt, Pakistan, Turkey, Panama, Qatar and Palau.

Former Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban was at the table of Consul Vince Carlos and Madame Tina Carlos.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

A	D	O	R	A	B	L	E		G	E	L	I	D	
L	O	C	A	T	I	O	N		E	L	E	N	I	
F	I	T	T	I	N	G	T	H	E	M	O	D	E	
		I	T	S		H	A	S		N	I	G	E	L
A	P	S	O			J	U	G		B	I	G	A	N
B	A	T		H	E	O	S		C	A	N	O	N	S
B	R	A	V	E	T	H	E	C	O	D	E			
O	T	T	O	M	A	N		I	N	E		O	C	C
T	I	E	T	O		S	H	A	O		S	A	L	O
	P	E	R	L		B	O	U	G	H	T	A	N	D
S	T	A	Y	S	A	N	E		E	L	O		U	N
T	H	R	E	E	Y	E	A	R	S	O	W	E	D	
A	R	K	S		M	A	M	E	T		O	L	E	S
B	U	S		P	A	T	S	Y		N	F	L		A
		H	O	N			G	O	F	O	R	T	H	E
A	S	W	A	N		T	E	N	O	R	S		A	B
D	O	I	N	G	A	S	T	O	A	D		P	L	Y
I	N	N	S		P	E	R	I	L		S	I	S	
D	O	D	O	E	S		A	S	I	G	H	T	T	O
A	M	E	L	I	E		D	E	E	R	E		O	N
S	A	X	O	N	S		E	D	S	E	L		N	E

A	L	D	E	R	S									
H	O	R	N	E	T									
O	N	E	D	G	E									
		W	O	R	E									
D	B	O	W	E	D									
		O	U	S	T	S								
			T	O	T									
	B	I	T											
	F	A	S	O										
D	S	O	W	E	D									
	U	N	R	O	L	L	E	D						
	A	U	D	I										
	P	I	N	E	S									
	A	T		I	N	G	L	E						
A	D													
	U	T	E											
	S	T	E	R										
	A	R	C											
T	O	B	E	H	O	E	D							
	O	N	C	A	M	E	R	A						
	N	E	D	R	O	R	E	M						



ETHAN Allen's Country House line

Dreaming of your own *Spa Business*?

* **Fresh** Spa Concept
* Spa **for Everyone**
* **Below 1M** Investment
* 50 Sq. Mtr **Minimum Space**
* Franchising **Nationwide**

BIG APPLE express spa
Your Own Spa Business for Less Stress and Less Investment
FRANCHISE HOT LINE : **(02) 6311697 * (0917)5245328**

Seven ways to gracious living

WHILE REMAINING PROUD of its American heritage, Ethan Allen has infused Asian and European influences to its designs as it recognizes the various style preferences of its clients. For this reason, the brand has introduced the seven lifestyle PODS or Projections of Distinct Styles.

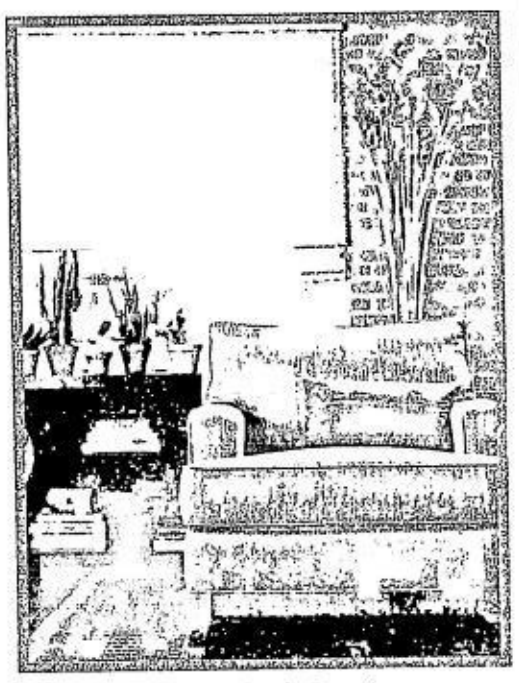
Glamour. Beautiful woods, sleek finishes, luxurious materials and fine accessories capture the essence and grace of glamorous living. The person who lives here loves to entertain, appreciates the style of fine tailored clothing and is detail-oriented in home and wardrobe. Well-traveled and savvy business people perfectly fit the Glamour pod.

Global. Warm woods, natural fibers, vivid colors and distinctive collectibles suggest your taste for the exotic, your fondness for distant cultures and your appreciation for all things eclectic. It's a globally inspired environment where you want to live—always comfortable, always interesting, and always homey.

Loft. Starting out or paring down begins with the notion of the "little black dress"—a look and philosophy that celebrates simplicity, style and the enduring character of good design. From contemporary, bold and vibrant to traditional, soft and subtle, the surroundings are clean, fresh and graphically appealing—just the way you want to live.

Villa. A taste of Tuscany, the essence

SEVEN/ E3


ESTATE celebrates classic Americana.

Our Promo, **ROOM** for as low as **P1,350+** per person on twin sharing

INCLUSIONS
- Room accommodation
- Full Buffet Breakfast at Le Jardin Restaurant
- Use of Roofdeck/ Swimming Pool & Gym

City Garden Hotel Makati

PARTY PACKAGE for as low as **P24,750+**

Makati cor. Kalayaan Avenues, Makati City
Telephone No.: **899-1111**
E-mail: makati@citygardenhotels.com
Website:**www.citygardenhotels.com**

More Reasons to Celebrate with Chocolate Marjolaine, Now Made Better!

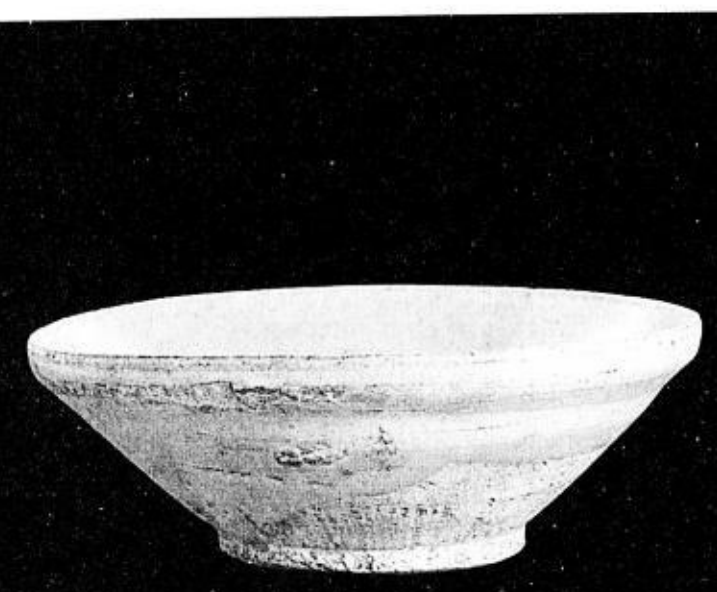
Red Ribbon Bakeshop has wowed us for the past 28 years with its wide variety of beautiful cakes that taste as good as they look. Last year, it gave us an irresistible delight with its introduction of Chocolate Marjolaine. And in just less than a year's time, Chocolate Marjolaine has brought smiles to numerous Filipino homes as the centerpiece of their celebrations. Now, Red Ribbon gives us more reasons to celebrate with the improvements made on this household favorite!

Layers and layers of the Chocolate Marjolaine's meringue wafers are made more crisp, with each wrapped in the lusciousness of more chocolate and nestled between more helpings of exquisite praline cream. Delight in its toppings of rich chocolate nuggets, roasted cashews and a tower of premium chocolate. The new, improved Chocolate Marjolaine definitely brings more "ooohs" and more "aaahs" to your special celebration.

Chocolate Marjolaine is the perfect cake for that special occasion or the perfect gift for that special loved one. Whether it's a party for two or a big birthday bash, the Chocolate Marjolaine made better surely brings more "ooohs" and "aaahs" to the table.

Visit a Red Ribbon branch nearest you or call 747-7777 (Metro Manila) to have the Chocolate Marjolaine, made better, delivered to you.

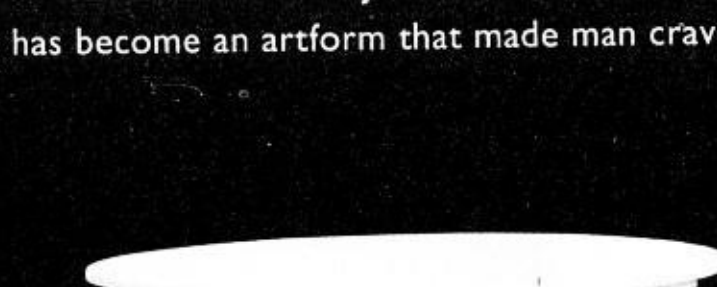
It's more beautiful with a Red Ribbon



15th Century Stoneware
Man uses his hands to shape how he satisfies his hunger.

16th Century Earthenware
As man evolved, so did his taste but his hunger stayed the same.

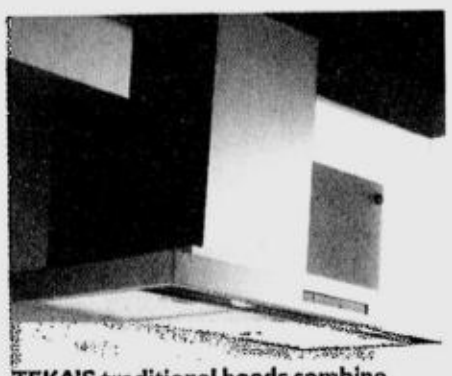
17th Century Porcelainware
Eating has become an artform that made man crave for more.



1995 Styroware
We introduced an easy way for man to satisfy his hunger.

Turn the page to see what's in store for the modern man.

Secrets of the hood



TEKA'S traditional hoods combine striking details with high technology.

SAY goodbye to steams, greases, fumes and odors with Teka.

TODAY'S kitchen is much more than a place to cook.

TODAY'S KITCHEN IS MUCH MORE than a place to cook. The kitchen can be a gathering place for a crowd or a quiet place to prepare and eat an intimate meal. The kitchen has also always been the heart of a family's house. It is in this room that a family prepares meals, shares meals, and gathers to talk about the day. This is the room where guests gather, where friends play games around the kitchen table, and where parents might relish a quiet time at the end of the day. It is, therefore, a necessity for the kitchen appliances to be comfy and dependable.

Range hoods were invented as a practical answer to hot, smelly kitchens. These days, while they still are expected to do that job, they have another, equally important responsibility: Range hoods have to be practical, almost noiseless, and have to make a fashion statement. Range hoods have become the focal center of a well-designed kitchen.

Sound of silence

There are kitchen sounds that we love. The soft crackling of deep fried food, the gentle sizzle of wok-fried food, and the ding of the kitchen timer that tells us the cooking's done.

Through all these, one sound remains unfamiliar and quite a nuisance in the kitchen: the noise of the common range hood. Barely a conversation can be carried over the din.

No single person will be happy about the noise. Housewives and chefs alike complain about the noise. It's typical to hear the following statement: "Noise! Talk about the noise! Nobody can hear anything when I've got my range hood turned on, but if I don't turn it on when I'm using the grill, everyone chokes on the smoke."

If you can empathize, it's time for a new range hood. Range hoods have come a long way. The newest models are more effective and those with remote fans are much, much quieter. Teka believes that the kitchen must be a noiseless space. Unlike other producers, silence comes as a standard and not as a costly option. With sound levels of 50 decibels or less (equivalent to the sound of a gentle breeze), sometimes you'll wonder if it is really on.

Aroma overload

There is nothing that speaks of home more than the welcoming aroma of food being cooked. In fact, there are distinctive smells you associate with the kitchen, such as the aroma of simmering garlic and onions. However, too much of these smells put together, combined with smoke and grease, create odors that need to be quickly removed from the air.

Cooking odors are actually only one of the problems created when a stove is not ventilated properly. Grease, smoke and moisture are generated when cooking, and without a range hood, all of that greasy vapor eventually settles onto walls and furniture, creating sticky, dirty surfaces that soon create a yucky odor of their own.

The Teka Extraction system is based on the science of the Venturi effect. This ensures that the air accelerates, passing through a narrowing vent. A barrier that avoids the fumes is formed and the odors do not escape through the front and the side panels of the hood. This makes the suction of the hood homogenous in all perimeters, and minimizes energy consumption as well.

Completely purified air doesn't just mean a good filtration system, but also an efficient extraction process. Both need to work seamlessly to provide clean, pure air at all times. Teka achieves this in two ways: through an exhaust duct to the outside of the house, or through a charcoal filter system.

The charcoal filters absorb fumes, steam, odors and grease to purify the air, regenerating it back into the room. It is a very simple, economic, and ecologically sound technique, but it does rely on the replacement of charcoal filters when the accumulation of particles reduce the effectiveness of the system.

Bright and intelligent

Another important function of hoods is to illuminate the cooking area. Teka hood lighting ranges from traditional bulbs to four diachronic halogen lamps integrated into the casing to provide a more homogeneous lighting solution. Both options offer good levels of light over the cooking area, and the slope of the canopy on some models avoids overwhelming the user's eyes.

Teka range hoods are classified as "intelligent hoods:" the hood is autonomous and there is no need to adjust it manually. Furthermore, it is always at the right speed to minimize noise levels and to ensure optimal energy consumption and exhaust efficiency.

The humidity device is a sensor that starts up automatically when it detects steam in the kitchen, regulating the speed in accordance with the humidity level (from the first speed to the third one). The moment it no longer detects humidity, it turns off automatically.

Teka develops products that maintain a high degree of technological innovation while allowing flexibility to reflect the user's own personality. From shaped hobs (the electric/gas range) to crystal wing hoods or old style ovens, Teka products can enhance any kitchen.

In this case, comfort is a value that becomes not only associated with the living room, but also with the kitchen. This explains why Teka keeps elevating its standards and offering more choices: to deliver products that go beyond expectations and that suit individual needs and aesthetics.

Who says all kitchen appliances should be square and boring? Teka's stylish and modern curves make for warm, playful and whimsical kitchens without compromising on great features and amenities.

Check out various options to personalize your kitchen at Kuysen Bath Gallery 4/F HomeBuddies Section, Glorietta IV, Kuysen Enterprises Inc at 236 E.Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City or at Teka Kuchentechnik M.C. Home Depot, Fort Bonifacio. Call 7407595, 7293595, 815-6057.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

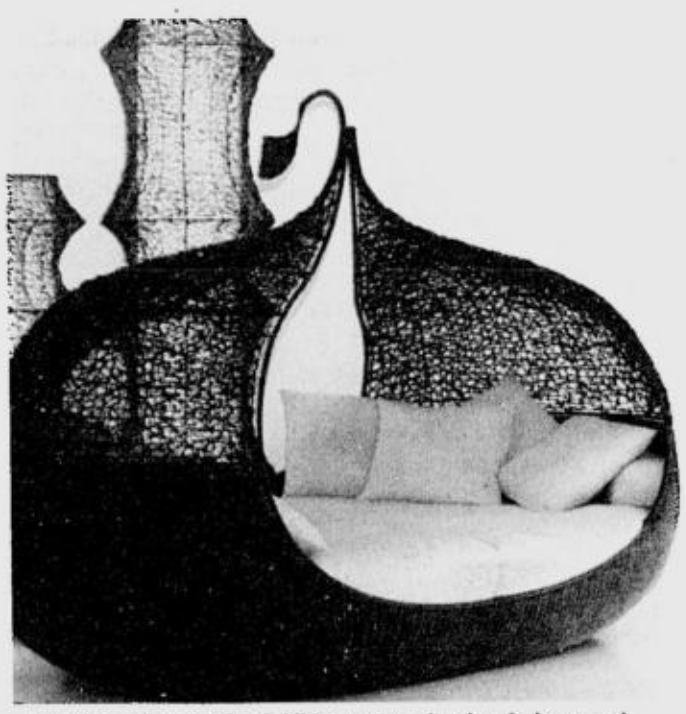
PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

ODES

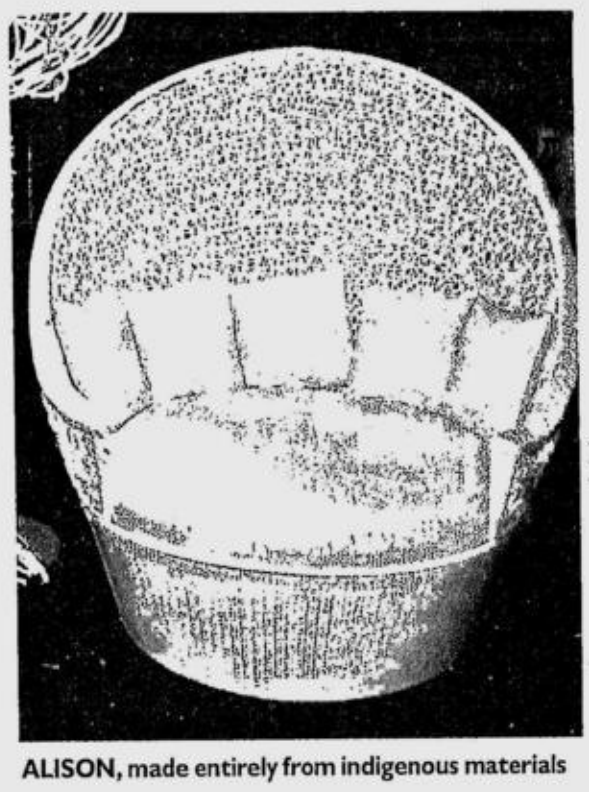
ACROSS
1 Very charming
9 Icy cold
14 Trees with catkins
20 Site
21 Kate Nelligan film
22 Wasp type
23 In line with current fashions?
25 Jittery
26 "— showtime!"
27 Is sick with
28 Dr. Watson player Bruce
30 Sported
31 Lhasa — (dog of Tibet)
34 Pitcher
35 Like a cello?
37 Cub's club
38 Antique cars
40 Church laws
41 Throws out
42 Dare to solve a hard cryptogram?
45 Small kid
46 Footstool
47 Suffix with Benedict
48 Happen
51 Chomped
54 Link with
55 Cager O'Neal, familiarly
57 Beauty parlor
58 Burkina — (African nation)
59 Computer programming language
61 Like packets of plant seeds in stores?
64 Don't do anything crazy
67 "Evil Woman" rock gp.
68 No longer furled
69 156 weeks overdue?
72 German auto
73 Boats like Noah's
74 Playwright David
75 Madrid cheers
77 Longs (for)
80 Subway alternative
81 Easy mark
82 Giants' org.
83 Itching with excitement
85 Snookums
86 Try to grab a cattle prod?
88 With 112-Down, it extends across the Nile
91 Choir voices
94 "This guy walks into — ..."
95 Colorado reservation member
96 Mimicking a warty critter?
98 Two- — (double-layer)
99 Suffix with joke
100 Travel guide listings
101 Danger
102 Bro's sibling
103 Circle portion
105 Extinct birds
107 Very weedy garden?
113 2001 French film or its heroine
114 Name in farm equipment
115 Being filmed
116 Early Englishmen
117 Ford fiasco
118 1976 Pulitzer-winning composer

DOWN
1 ET of TV
2 "Where — begin?"
3 Sept. follower
4 Proportion
5 Slaving away
6 Storage boxes
7 Journal
8 Excite
9 Turns right on a horse
10 Dutch — disease
11 Like the king of beasts
12 Deep violet
13 San — (La Jolla resident)
14 Get — of (contact)
15 Chaney Jr. or Sr.
16 Lengthened
17 Backs financially
18 Bemoan
19 War horses
24 Old witch
29 USN off.
31 Monk's boss
32 First of a trilogy
33 Texas' Dinosaur Valley and others
34 Lennon and Hancock
35 Invited
36 Rude dude
38 Contrition
39 JFK listing
40 Defeat
43 Cry "aye"
44 "See ya!"
45 Frozen plain
48 Muesli grain
49 Actor Rains
50 Stamford loc.
51 Scolding angrily
52 "That makes sense"
53 "Sweeney —"
56 Letter-shaped construction pieces
57 Hot-doggers
58 Doing origami
60 Non-cleric
62 Day- — paint
63 Thicker, as fog
64 Puncture
65 Drive- — window
66 Shipshape
70 Spanish for "king"
71 Greeting for 'Enry 'Iggins
76 Was idle
78 Really tickle
79 Matzo meal?
81 Ping- —
82 "L'etoile du —" (motto of Minnesota)
84 "J to — L-Ol" (Jennifer Lopez album)
85 "Star Wars" pilot
86 Puck stoppers
87 — Purina
88 Nike rival
89 California wine valley
90 Brand of glass cleaner
91 Mao — -tung
92 Big online brokerage
93 Made a din
97 Church parts
98 Fruit stone
99 Ninny
102 Author Silverstein
103 Letter openers?
104 Posterior
106 One, in Ulm
108 Univ. senior's test
109 Unified
110 Above, to poets
111 Before, to poets
112 See 88-Across

answer on page D4



ADAM and Eve day bed. UV-protected polyethylene and water-repellant cushion and pillows; Kawayan floor lamps with woven vine and handmade paper



ALISON, made entirely from indigenous materials

Filipino design showcases

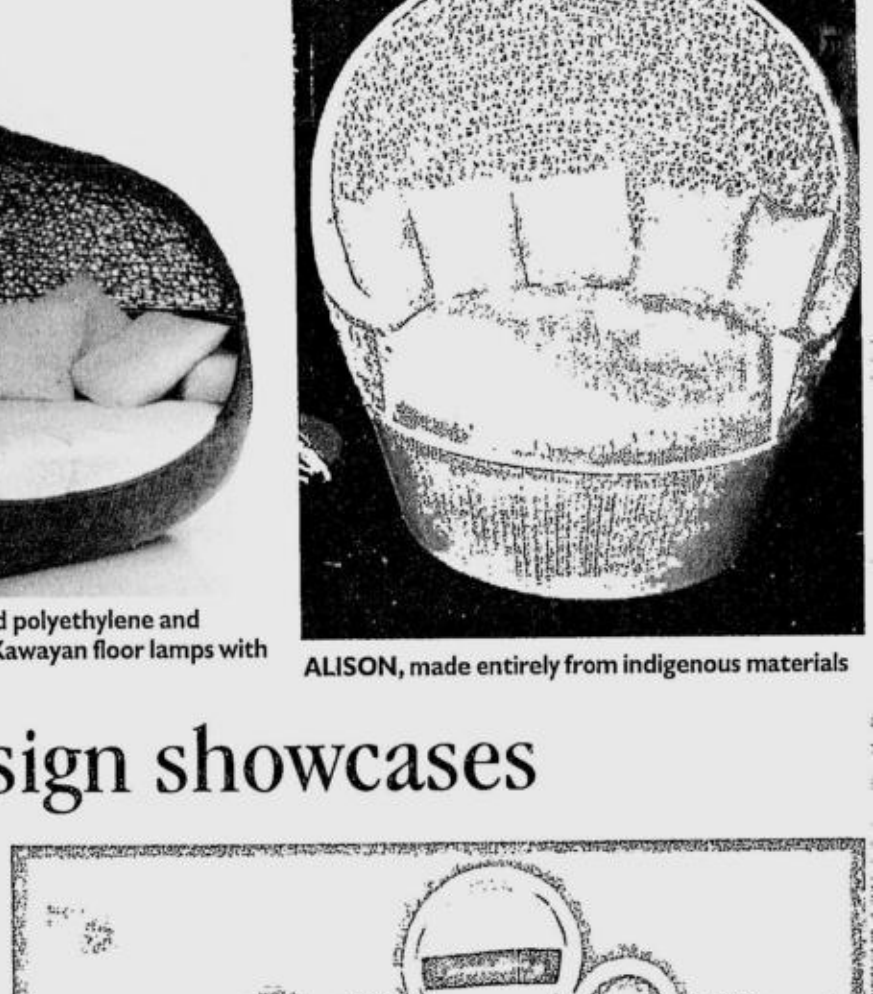
LOCSIN LIVING IS A LOCAL enterprise engaged in the retailing and distribution of world-class Philippine-made furniture. The company was a spin-off of Locsin International, established in 1979 by couple Roberto and Cindelyn Locsin.

Locsin Living's furniture and home accents are showcased in a showroom in Quezon Avenue. The products, now numbering around 1,000 varieties, utilize different materials: rattan, metal, sea grass, abaca, handmade paper, and other indigenous vines.

Locsin Living pieces have been used in a number of popular shows: "Sex and the City," "Will & Grace," "The O.C.," "Friends," as well as Will Smith's movie, "Hitch."

The company recently participated in Manila FAME International, a four-day trade show with over 400 companies showcasing home furnishings, gifts and houseware, holiday décor and fashion accessories. The exhibition, tagged Asia's best design destination, was organized by the Department of Trade and Industry's Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions. It is the only trade event in the country recognized by Union des Foires International, a France-based union of the world's leading trade show organizers.

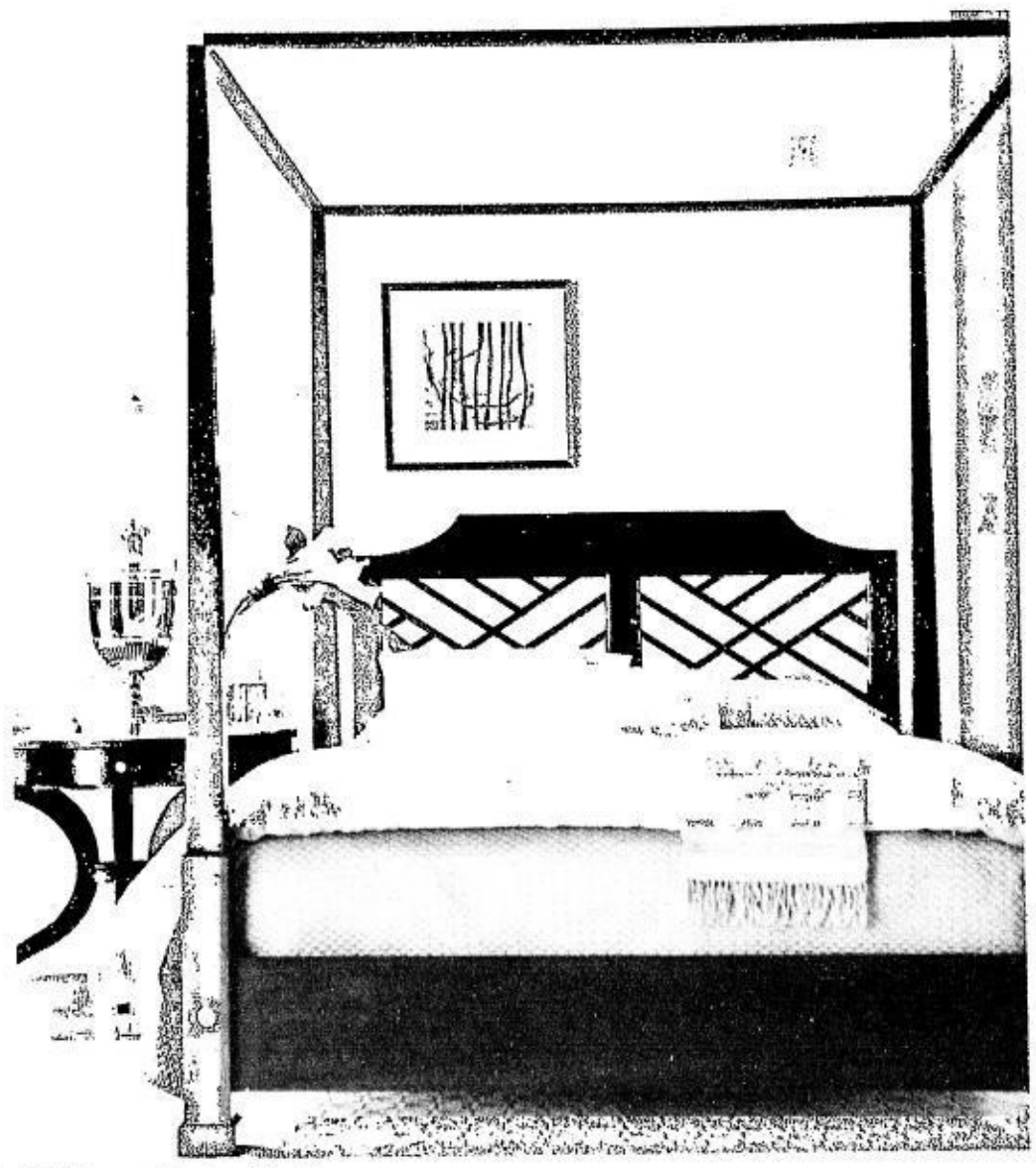
Visit www.locsin.net.



SANTINO polyethylene-woven lounge chair with Kagami Mirror Divider, embellished with Sitara floor lamps made with handmade paper and rattan

VILLA exhibits Mediterranean influences.

GLOBAL represents a merger of the classic and the contemporary.

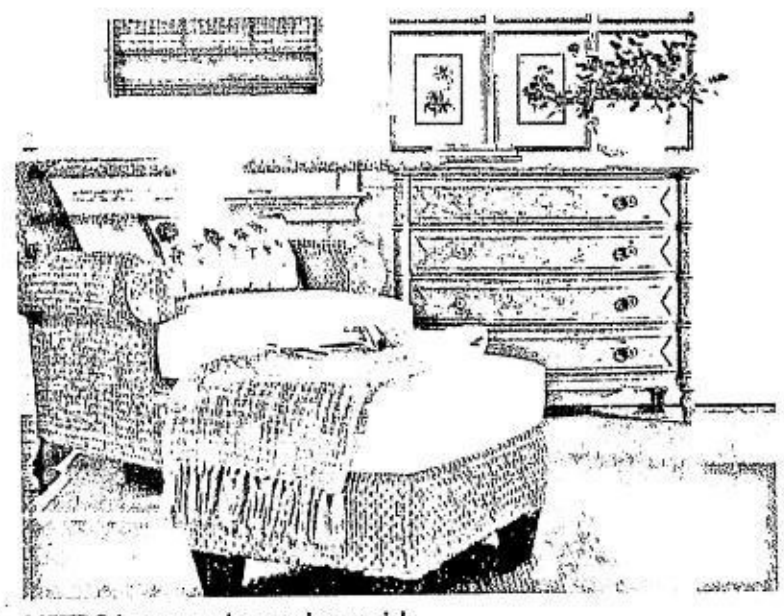


LOFT—casual urban lifestyle

Seven ways to gracious living

From page E1

GLAMOUR, for well-traveled and savvy business people



METRO is more urban and youngish.

of Provence, and a touch of the American South enlighten these Villa-inspired surroundings with sun-soaked colors, dreamy florals and the unmistakable influence of celebrated artisans. Sturdy, elegantly carved woods, hand-forged scrollwork and classic stoneware live in elegant harmony with delicate styles, colors and fabrics.

An individual who values home, children and even pets will fall in love with the Villa pod. She likes gardening, antiquing, entertaining and cooking as well.

Metro. This is how you want to live: working, relaxing, dining and entertaining in surroundings that mirror the tempo of metro life and take the best advantage of available space. Free of clutter, you can focus on your priorities and draw on natural elements—exposed brick, metals, timbers, weaves and textures—to complement your penchant for simplicity, practicality and understated design

Estate. Celebrate American style in classic antique-inspired settings that reflect the varied aspects and interests of your life—from everyday traditions to favorite pastimes or formal entertaining. The Estate style speaks to a no-fuss, well-organized lifestyle that celebrates friends, family and self-expression.

Country House. An elegant established country house style—whether formal or relaxed—bears the imprint of previous generations, tradition and the art of living well. Someone who has seen the rest of the world lives here. He appreciates fine art and music, and his environment and personal sense of fashion are eclectic and rich with color and texture.

Visit Ethan Allen's design center at Pioneer cor. Reliance St., Mandaluyong. Call 6348587.

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde

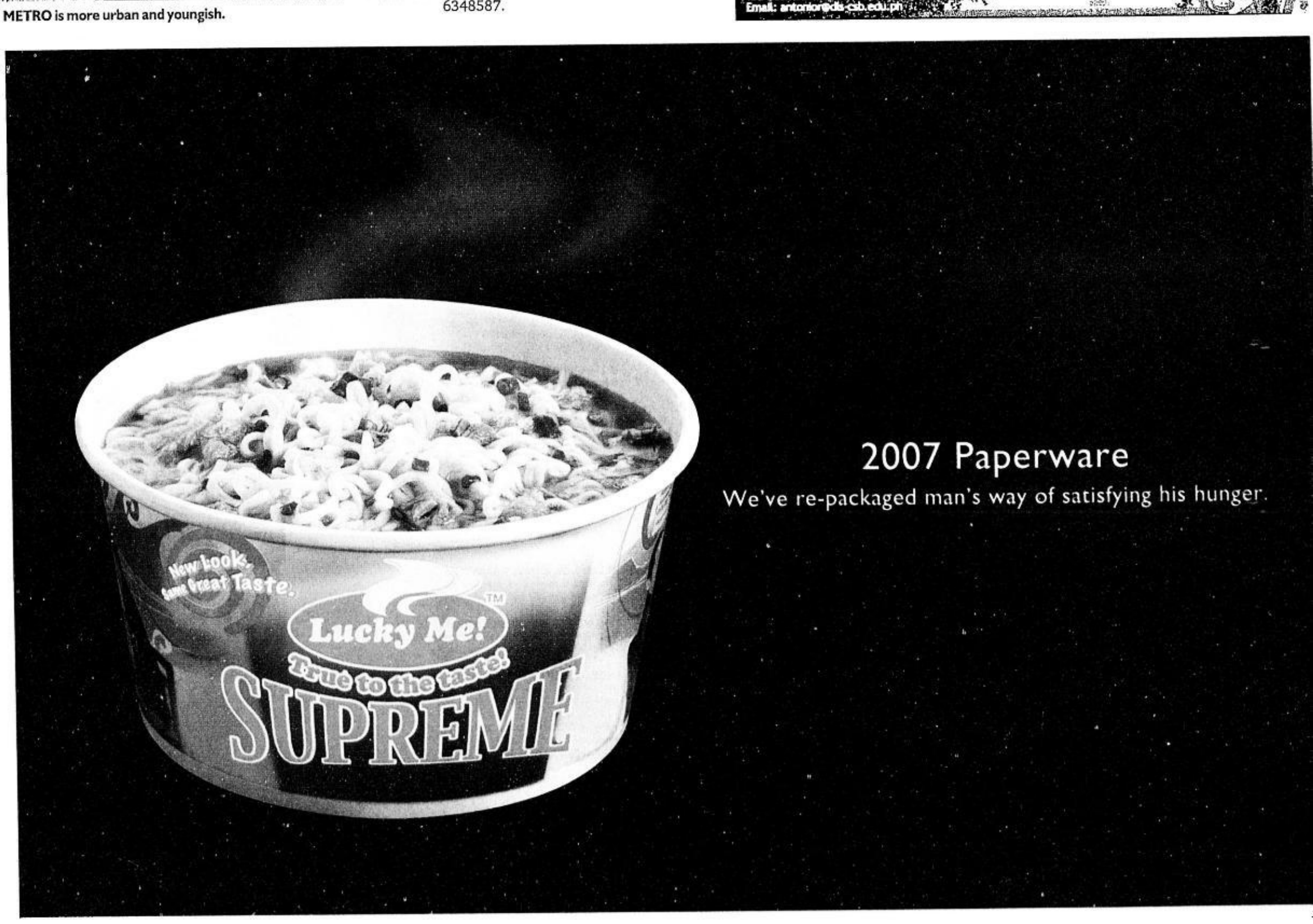
The Associate Degree in Culinary Arts (ADICA) program allows you to undergo intensive training in all aspects of culinary arts. Respected industry professionals will oversee your immersion in culinary theory and adoption of industry trends.

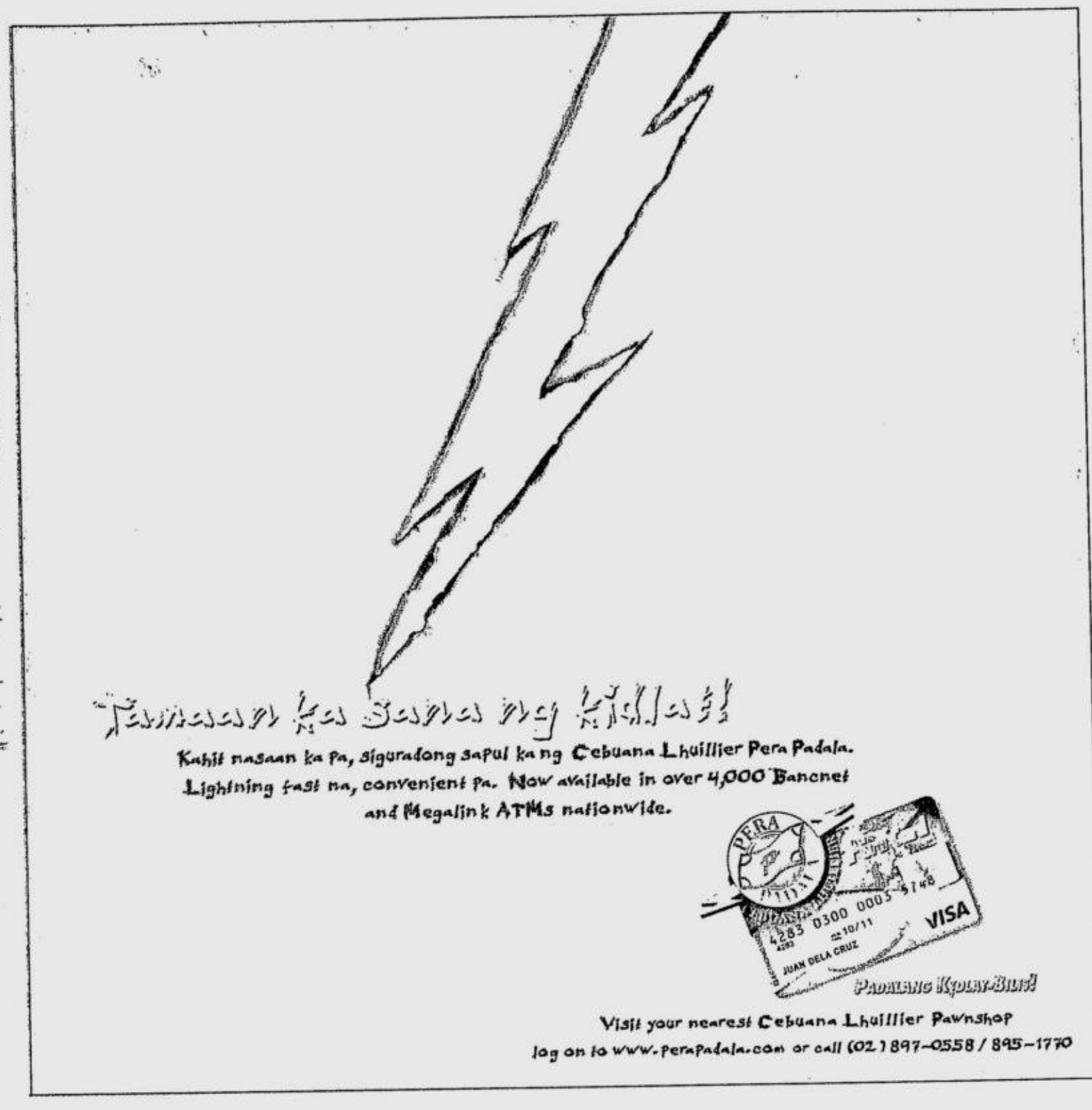
Offered by De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde's School of Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management (SHRIM) in consortium with the Center for Asian Culinary Studies, ADICA also lets you do actual hotel and restaurant services as well as food service catering as part of your training.

Enrollment ongoing for October batch!

SHRIM is the first hotel-school in the country to receive a Level 2 Accreditation from the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities (PAASCU).

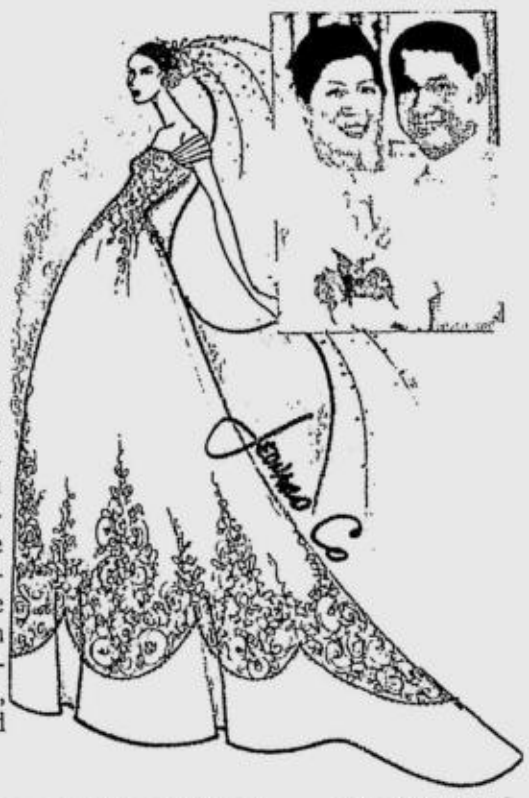
For application inquiries, contact:
SCHOOL of HOTEL, RESTAURANT and INSTITUTION MANAGEMENT
De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde
DLS-CSB AKIC, Estrada cor. Arellano Sts., Malate Manila
Tel. Nos.: 521-5848 Telefax: 400-7408
Email: antonioa@dls-csb.edu.ph





Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding; and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER, P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.



OBJA-AN-DIZON

Deneb Obja-An, son of **Hamilito** and **Henrietta Obja-An,** recently exchanged vows with Dr. **Ma. Pamela Dizon,** daughter of **Ruben** and **Adelaida Dizon,** at Santuario de San Jose.

The bride wore a **Leonard Co** all-white Mikado silk sateen gown with matte gold duchess sateen pleated mini sleeves. The dress was embroidered with matte gold floral and fern patterns, and embellished with cut glass, crystals, pearls and sequins.

PEÑALES-MONDEJAR

Chris Montecalvo Peñales, son of **Crisologo** and **Linda Peñales,** will wed **Joyce Legaspi Mondejar,** daughter of **Celso** and **Elsa** (deceased) **Mondejar,** on Sept. 8 at St. Jude Thaddeus Church, General Malvar St., Davao City. Reception will follow at Top of the Apo, Apo View Hotel, J. Camus St., Davao City.

CELESTIAL 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Chito and **Christy Celestial** will celebrate their silver wedding anniversary on Sept. 4.

PIRAVALASAMY-DIONISIO

William Piravalasamy, son of **Sammy** and **Josephinemary Piravalasamy** of Selangor, Malaysia, will wed **Lorelie Dionisio,** daughter of **Jose** and **Perla Dionisio,** on Sept. 15 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Jalan Tengku Kelana, Klang Town, Malaysia. Dinner reception will be in Dewan Serbaguna in Jalan Kota Raya, Kampung Jawa, Klang Town, Selangor.

The bride will wear a burgundy sari with gold trimmings chosen by the mother of the groom. Another dinner-reception will be held for the bride's family and friends on Sept. 29 at the main dining hall of 9501 Restaurant, 14/F, ELJ Building, Mother Ignacia, QC.

CALAYAG-BANAAG

Benedicto A. Calayag, son of **Angel** and **Donata Calayag** of Malolos, Bulacan, will wed **Apolla C. Banaag,** daughter of **Alejandro** (deceased) and **Amelia Banaag** of Laguna, on Sept. 8. Ceremony and reception will be at Gazebo Royale, QC.

4th ANNUAL HOTEL, RESTAURANT & TOURISM WEEKEND
Baguio City; Month of September
Contact:(074) 619 6843

BAGUIO CHARTER DAY ANNIVERSARY
Baguio City; September 1
Contact:Tel # (074) 442 3939

SARAKIKI-HADANG FESTIVAL
Calbayog City; September 1-8
Contact: Tel. # (055) 209 1776

BAGUIO TOURISM MONTH
Baguio City, September 1-30
Contact: (074) 442 7014

HINUGYAW FESTIVAL/ COTABATO PROVINCE FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY
Capitol Complex Amas, Kidapawan City; September 1
Contact: (064) 278 7053

"PAGDIRIWANG" CITY CHARTER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
General Santos City; September 1-5
Contact: (083) 553 8338

VICTORY DAY
Klangan, Ifugao ; September 2
Contact: (074) 442 7014

TUNA FESTIVAL
Gen. Santos City; September 3-5
Contact: (083) 554 9678

7TH PHILIPPINE TRAVEL EXCHANGE
Cebu International Convention Center
Mandaue City, Cebu: September 5-6
Contact: (02) 525-7320

1ST PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL TOURISM FAIR 2007
Cebu International Convention Center
Mandaue City, Cebu: September 5-6
Contact: (02) 832 9303

PADUL-ONG
Borongan E. Samar; September 7
Contact: (055) 330 1139

MEGAYON FESTIVAL
Zamboanga del Sur; September 7
Contact: (062) 214 2359

SIPONG FESTIVAL
Bais City, Negros Oriental: September 7
Contact: (032) 254 2811

18th PHILIPPINE TRAVEL MART
SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City: September 7-9
Contact: (02) 812 4513

PANAGDADAPUN FESTIVAL; QUIRINO DAY
Cabarroguis, Quirino; September 8-10
Contact: (078) 682 5088

LINGGO NG BULAKAN
City of Malolos Bulacan; September 8-15
Contact : (044) 662 7635

FLOMLOK FESTIVAL
Polomolok, South Cotabato; September 9-11
Contact:(083) 228 3447

KASADYAAN FESTIVAL
Tupi, South Cotabato; September 9-11
Contact: (083) 228 3447

BUYLUGANAY
Ivisan, Capiz; September 9
Contact: (036) 621 0042

MINULUAN FESTIVAL
Talisay City, Negros Occidental; September 10
Contact: (034) 495 4966

SAPATERO FESTIVAL
Marikina Riverpark, Marikina City; September 9
Contact: (02) 646 3787

PARADA NG KAKANIN / FEAST OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE ARANZAZU
San Mateo, Rizal; September 9
Contact: (02) 942-5793

MANDALA FESTIVAL
Midsalip Zamboanga del Sur; September 9
Contact: (062) 214 2359

SAYAW LAHI FESTIVAL
Naujan,Oriental Mindoro; September 10
Contact: (043)-288-3479

BONOK-BONOK MARADJAW KARADYAW FESTIVAL
Surigao City: September 10
Contact: (086) 8268064

BANYAHAN FESTIVAL
Brgy.Cupang Muntinlupa City; September 10
Contact (02) 543 0820

PASAYAN FESTIVAL
Surigao City: September 10
Contact: (086) 8268064

2ND NORTH SIARGAO SURFING CHALLENGE
Sta. Monica, Burgos and San Isidro Siargao Island,
Surigao del Norte; September 11-16
Contact: (086) 826-2317041

INTERNATIONAL TOURISM AND TRADE EXPO 2007
Festival Supermall, Alabang, Muntinlupa City; September 14-16
Contact (02) 687 4812

BANAMOS
Los Banos, Laguna; September 15-19
Contact: (049)-536-0050

6TH ASIAN INDIVIDUAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP
Cebu International Convention Center
Mandaue City, Cebu: September 18-30
Contact: (02) 526 8507

TALAKUDONG FESTIVAL
Tacurong City; September 18
Contact: (064) 384 2302

PEÑAFRANCIA FESTIVAL
Naga City; 3rd Saturday of September
Contact: (054) 811 3961

ARAW NG SIQUIJOR with SOLILI
Siquijor, Siquijor; 3rd week of September
Contact: (035) 344 2088

KARANSA FESTIVAL
Danao City, Cebu; 3rd Sunday of September
Contact: (032) 200 3300

BAOTO FESTIVAL
Jabonga, Agusan Del Norte; 3rd week of September
Contact: (085)342 2185

BURDANG LUMBAN
Lumban, Laguna; September 21
Contact: (049)-808-4252

SEMANA SANG TURISMO (SILAY TOURISM WEEK)
Silay City; September 21-27
Contact: (034) 495 0061

SIARGAO INTERNATIONAL SURFING CUP
General Luna, Siargao Island Surigao del Norte
September 24-30
Contact: (086) 8262317

DALIT FESTIVAL
Tangub City, September 25
Contact: (088) 395 3130

NUANG FESTIVAL
San Agustin, Isabela; September 26
Contact: (078) 844 1621

WORLD TOURISM DAY
Nationwide; September 27
Contact: (074) 442 7014

ANIHAN FESTIVAL
Lobo, Batangas;September 27
Contact: (043) 198 1577

HUDYAKA FESTIVAL
Iligan City; September 27-29
Contact: (063) 221 3426

BALANGIGA ANNIVERSARY
Balangiga E. Samar; September 28
Contact: (055) 330 1311

6th HUNDRED ISLANDS FESTIVAL
Alaminos City, Pangasinan; September 29-30
Contact: (075) 551 2249

ANGELS FESTIVALS
San Rafael Bulacan; September 29
Contact: (041) 902 0066

LAPAY BANTIGUE DANCE FESTIVAL
Masbate City; Last week of September
Contact: (056) 333 5608

NATIONAL TOURISM WEEK
Nationwide; 4th week of September
Contact: (02) 523 8411 loc. 255

JOSEPH H. DURANO
Secretary
Department of Tourism

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINES
It's more fun in the islands

www.wowphilippines.com.ph
www.experiencephilippines.ph
www.wowpinoy.net

SCHEDULES OF THE FESTIVALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

sms feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) or email us at entertainment

inquirer.net/entertainment

INSIDE

'Lust'-ful Venice entry InHollywood /F3

Shaina need not worry about Angel Rushes /F6

'Kubrador,' 'Kaleldo' lead Urian nominees

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED INDIE movies "Kubrador" and "Kaleldo" lead the Best Picture race in the 30th Gawad Urian to be given out by the Manunuri ng Pelikulang Pilipino, the society of film critics, on Sept. 13, 7 p.m., at the Henry Lee Irwin Theater of the Ateneo de Manila University.

"Kubrador," about the struggles of a *jueteng* collector, nearly swept the nominations. Aside from garnering nominations for director Jeffrey Jeturian and lead actress Gina Pareño, it is also nominated for Best Supporting Actor (Domingo Landicho), Screenplay, Production Design, Cinematography, Editing, Music and Sound.

"Kaleldo," a poetically charged film about a Kapampangan patriarch and his three daughters living in post-lahar Pampanga, got nominations for its director, Brillante Mendoza, and its actresses, Cherrie Pie Picache and Angel Aquino. It is also nominated for Best Supporting Actor (Lauren Novero), Screenplay, Production Design, Cinematography, Music, and Sound.

The Best Picture race is dominated by independent movies: "Huling Balyan ng Buhi," Cinemaone festival grand prize winner last year; "Manoro," internationally acclaimed semi-documentary feature on the Aytas of Central Luzon; "Todos, Todos, Teros," an unconventional take on terrorism; and "Rome and Juliet," a sensitive tale about lesbian love.

The only studio movie running for Best

'KUBRADOR'/ F7

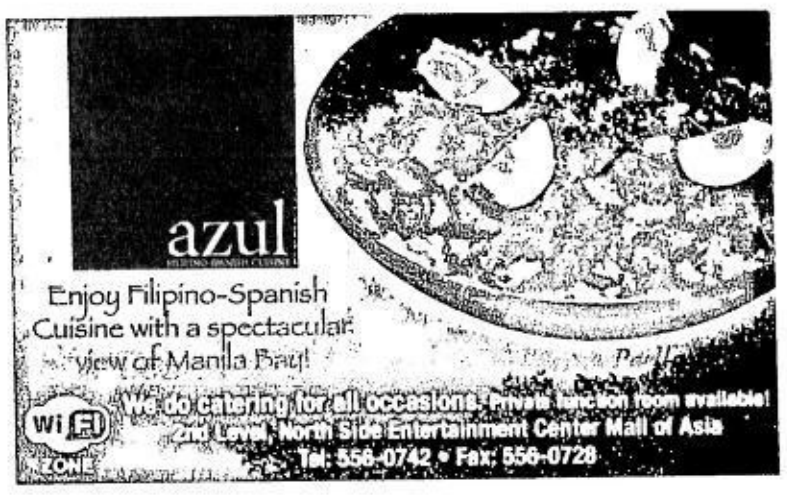
A DIFFERENT TUNE

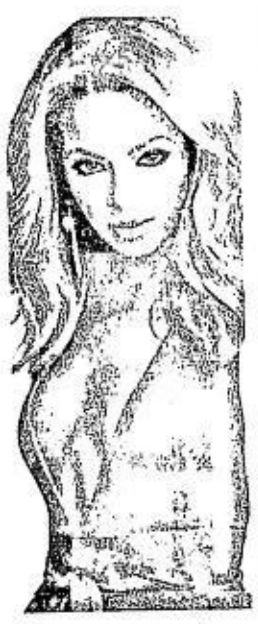
For Joey Albert, the inner burning for music never stops. But the singer also has a soft spot for the less-fortunate. As Gawad Kalinga's Ambassador of Goodwill in Canada, the two-time cancer survivor is now singing to help build homes for the homeless. *Page F2.* RUDY ESPERAS

DID YOU KNOW...

RP 'Idol' on GMA 7?

RELIABLE sources say "Philippine Idol" season 2 is moving from ABC 5 to GMA 7. The sources say Kapuso execs are now negotiating with FremantleMedia, "Idol" franchise holder, and that big-name stars are being eyed as judges.



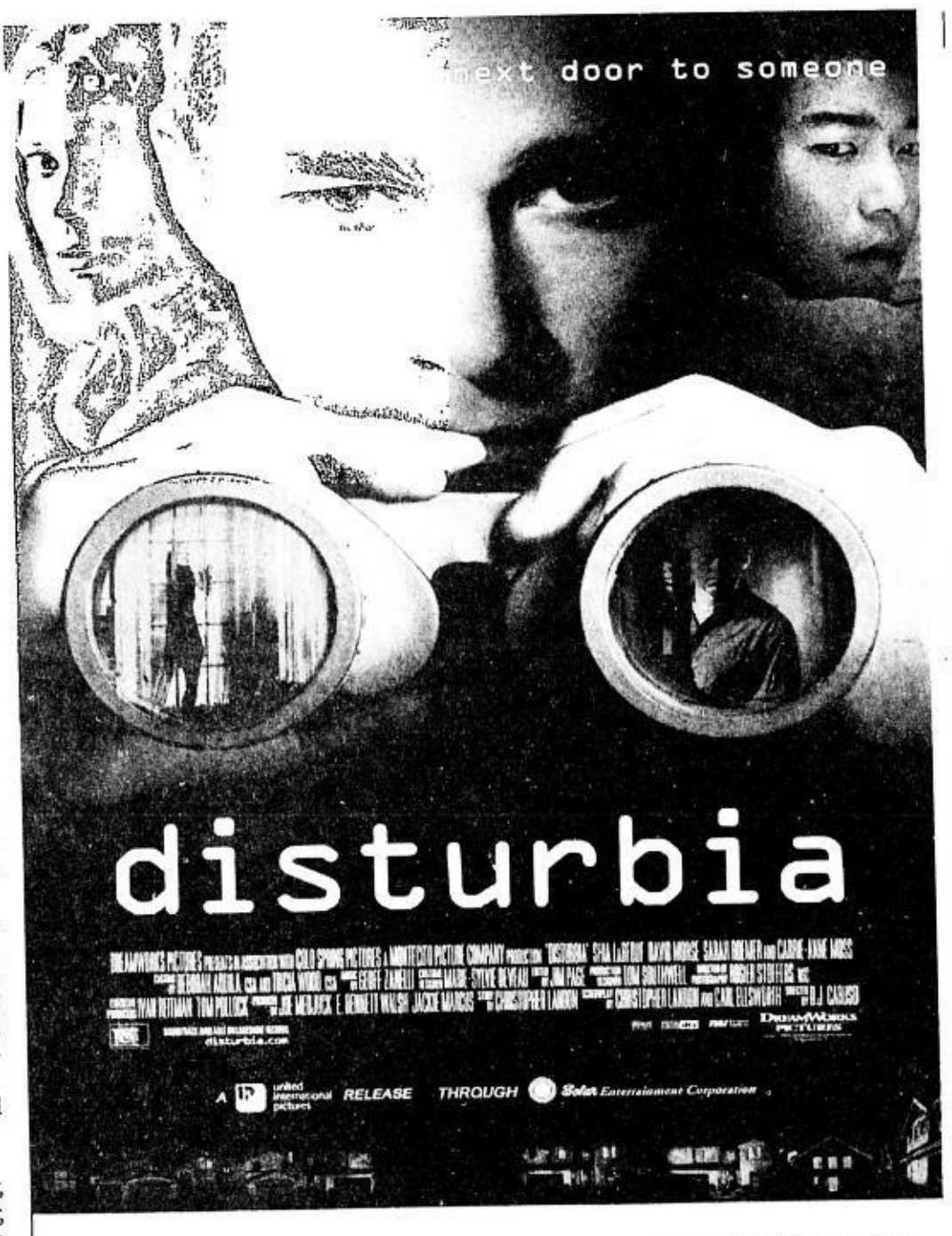


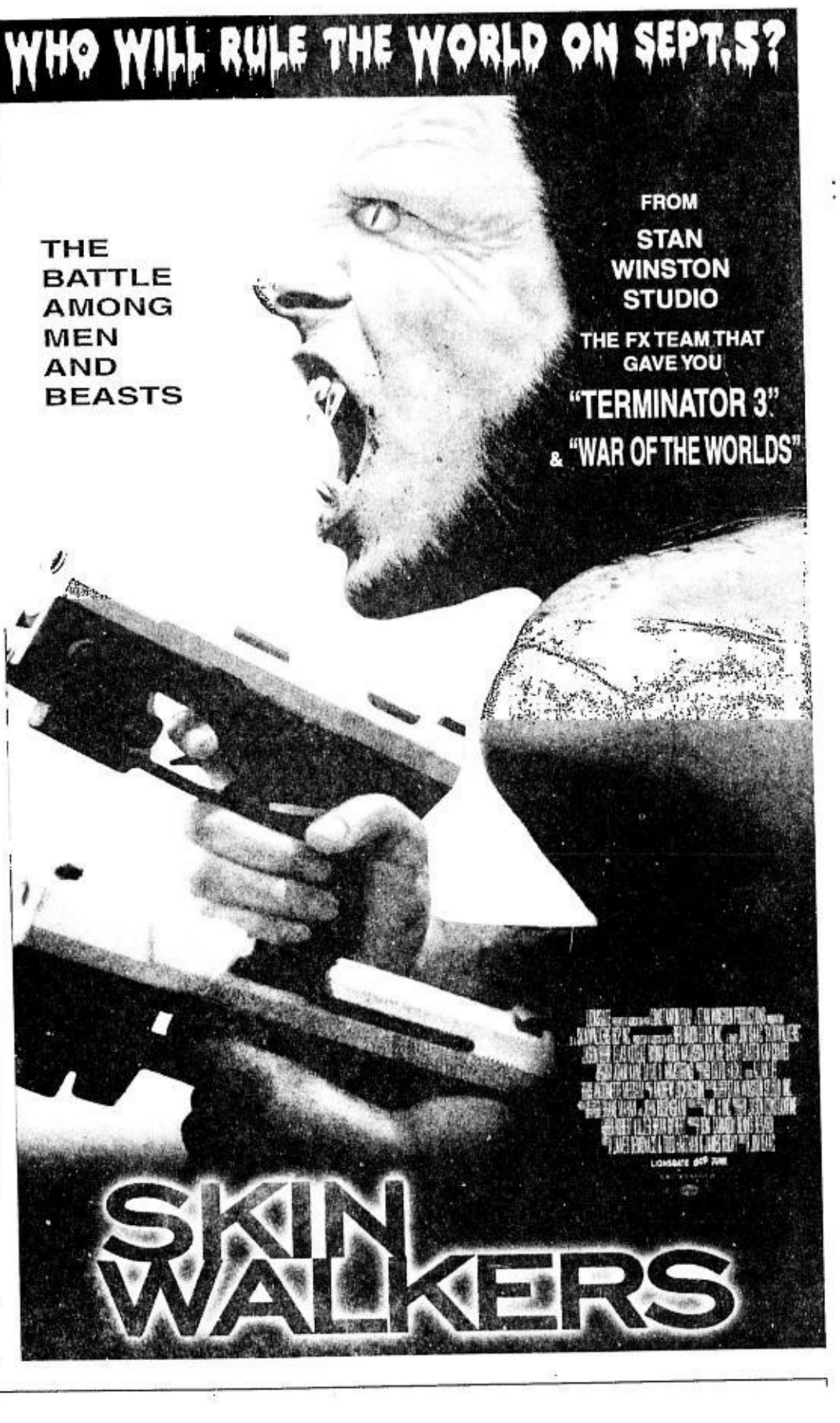
Beyonce sets Manila concert

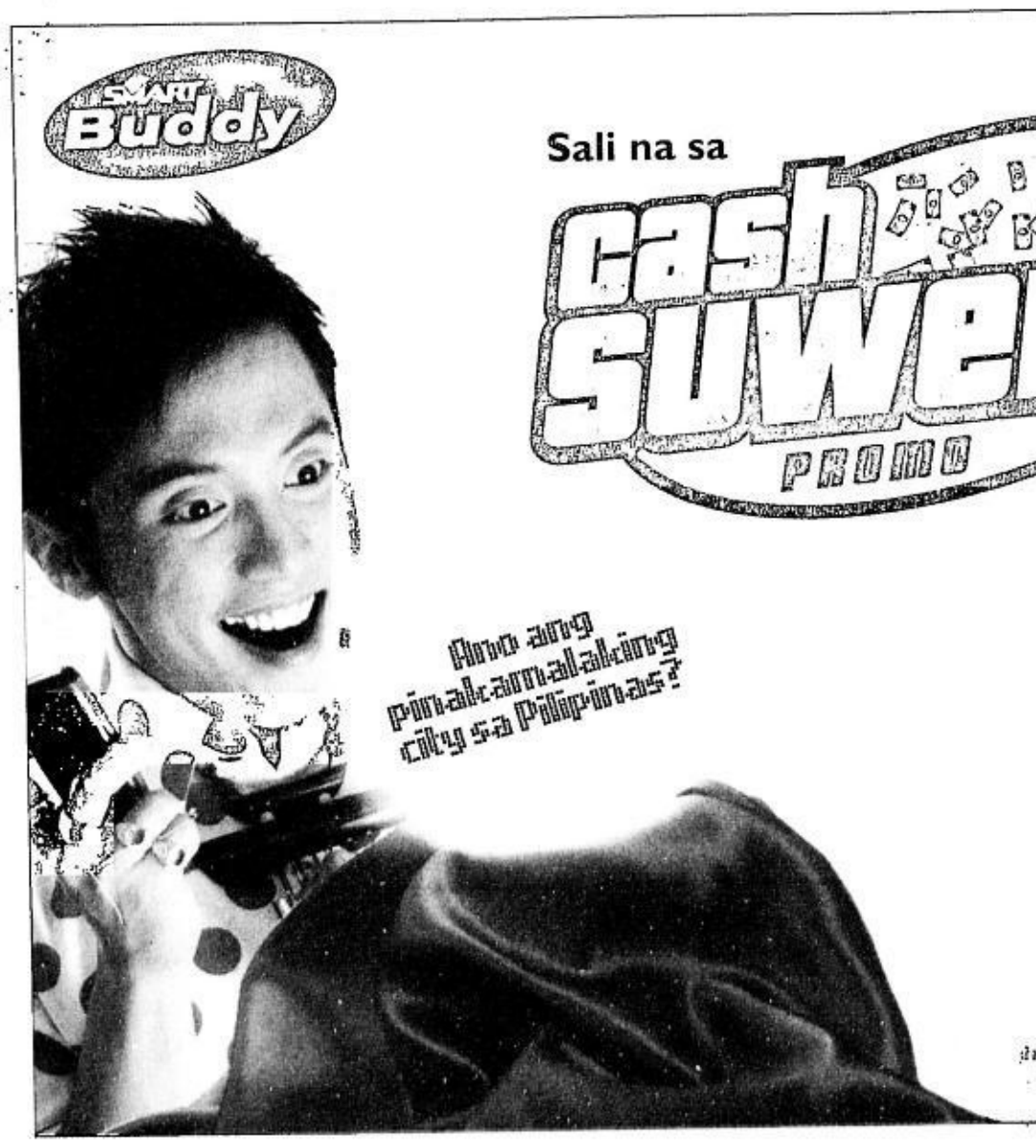
R&B SUPERSTAR Beyonce, whose current concert tour dubbed "The Beyonce Experience" has sold out shows worldwide, is reportedly considering a Manila stop.

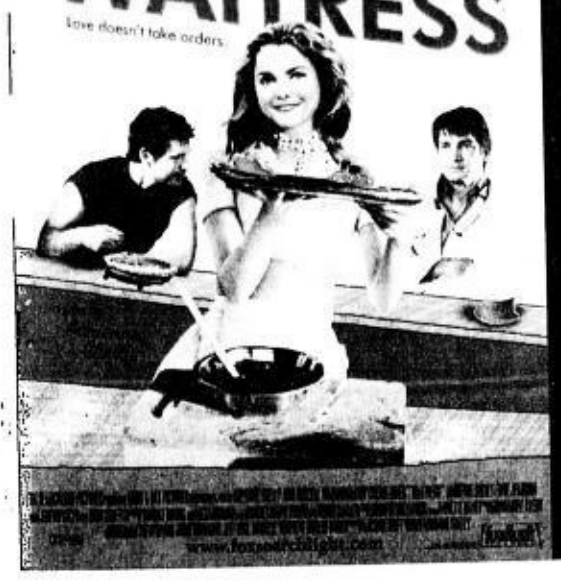
The news was relayed to INQUIRER Entertainment by a representative of Sony BMG Pilipinas, local subsidiary of Beyonce's record label.

The 25-year-old Afro-American singer-songwriter and record producer, who's also an actor, dancer and fashion designer, was the lead singer of Destiny's Child—said to be the world's best-selling female group of all time.







"A scrumptious romantic comedy for dreamers" (LA Times)
"An irresistible helping of delicious fun" (USA Today)
WAITRESS
Love doesn't take orders.

NOW SHOWING
EXCLUSIVELY AT
Gateway CinePlex*10
gatewaycineplex10.com
Enjoy truly world-class, state-of-the-art movie experience at popular prices
For ticket inquiries, call 911-5555 or log on to www.ticketnet.com.ph or www.aranetacenter.net

BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS. Joey with residents of Baseco, Tondo, GK's model site

Joey sings –and helps build homes

By Cora Lucas

IT'S HER WAY OF UNITING THE WILL OF the spirit with the work of the body, she says.

For three years now, singer Joey Albert, two-time cancer survivor, has been lending her celebrity status to her work as a voice for the poor and homeless.

Joey talks of a loftier mission that she found after being appointed Ambassador of Goodwill in Canada for Gawad Kalinga. She uses her gift of music to touch the hearts of Filipinos abroad who could very well share their blessings with the less fortunate back home.

She says her advocacy started when she was invited to do a fund-raising concert for Gawad Kalinga (GK). It was the first time she heard of the NGO.

Joey, based in Canada for more than a decade now, says she was brought to the city of Edmonton, a half-hour flight from her Vancouver home, where the show was to be staged. Before the performance, she was shown video clips of the organization's work—building homes for, and thus rebuilding the lives of, poor Filipinos. One of the clips was of a concert in Fort Bonifacio that starred Martin Nievera and Gary Valenciano.

Striking message

She recounts: "I said, 'Wow, this is really good.' Then they started explaining holistic community building. And when GK prime mover Tony Meloto spoke, one line really hit me. He said, 'No Filipino should die without doing anything for his country.' I realized that, for the past 10 years, I had been so focused on my own family life, that I had forgotten that aspect. So I decided it was time to get out of my little world."

Coincidentally, the 47-year-old singer did some advocacy work in 1988 via the ABS-CBN outreach program with a similar name, "Bahay Kalinga." For four years, she was host and executive producer of the show, which provided medical assistance to the poor.

"'Bahay Kalinga' planted in me the seed of involvement in public service," she says. "When you're searching for something deeper, I think eventually all roads will lead to a

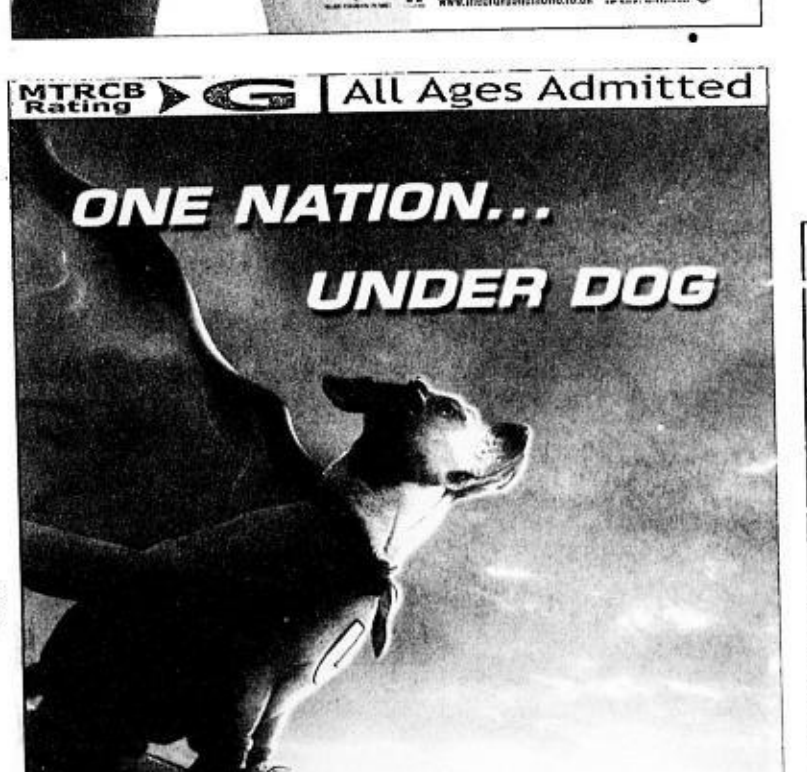
JOEY/F5

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX
Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City
To receive Eastwood City Events, Promos and Cinema schedule just text eastwood and send to 2948 for Globe, Smart & Sun Cellular subscribers
For inquiries, call
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

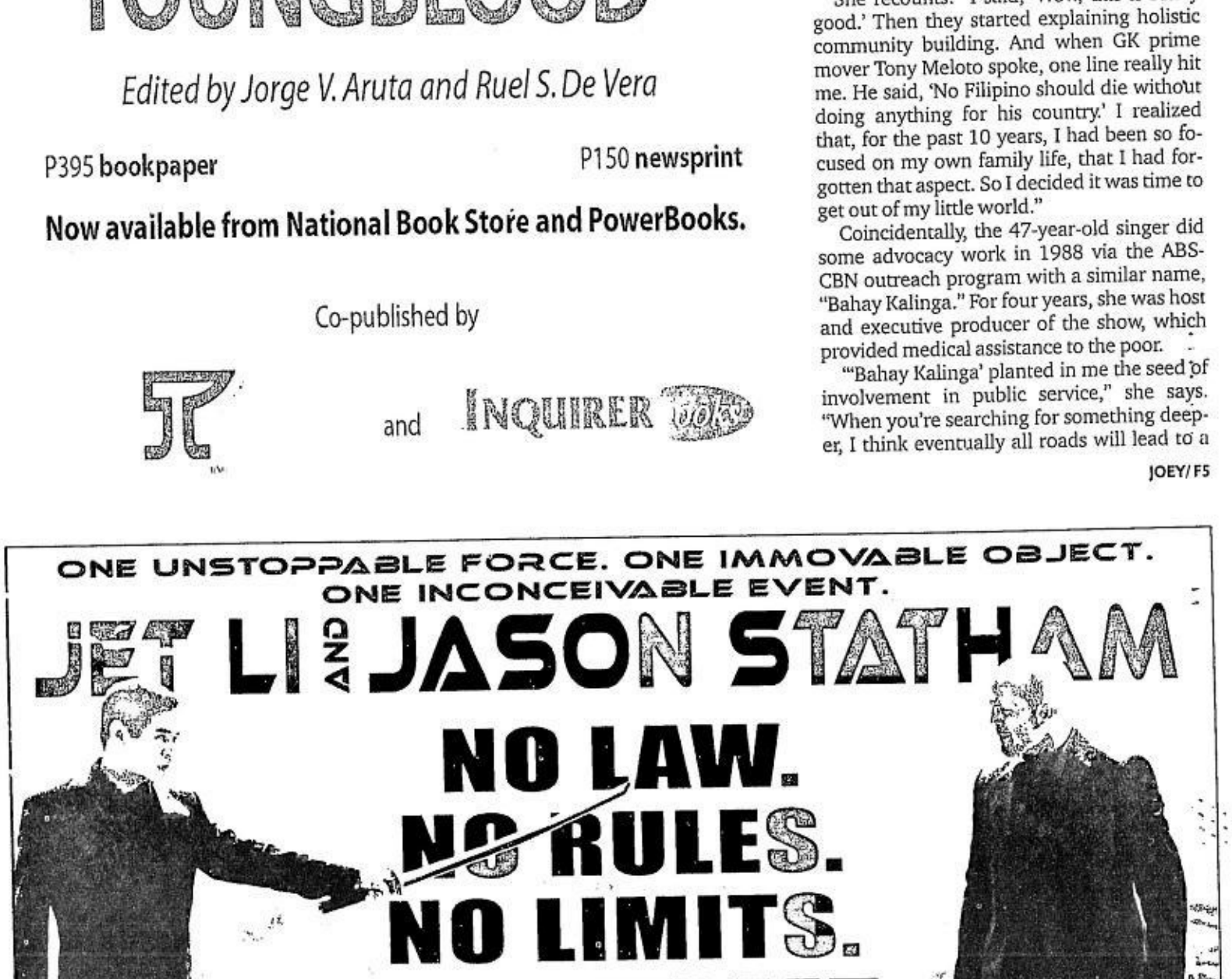
1	1408 1:00, 3:20, 6:05, 8:35, 11:00 PG-13	
2	INVASION 1:05, 3:35, 6:05, 8:35, 11:00 PG-13	
3	EVAN ALMIGHTY 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00 G	
4	BOURNE ULTIMATUM 2:40, 5:25 PG-13	HAIRSPRAY 8:30, 11:10 G

OPENS SEPTEMBER 12
MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YRS. OLD AND ABOVE.

HOW MANY WRONGS TO MAKE IT RIGHT?
JODIE FOSTER
THE BRAVE ONE
WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES A SILVER PICTURES PRODUCTION A NEIL JORDAN FILM JODIE FOSTER "THE BRAVE ONE" TERRENCE HOWARD HAVEEN ANDREWS NICKY KATT MARY STEENBURGEN MUSIC BY DAVID MARIANELLI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS HERBERT W. GAINS JODIE FOSTER DANA GOLDBERG AND BRUCE BERMAN STORY BY RODERICK TAYLOR & BRUCE A. TAYLOR SCREENPLAY BY RODERICK TAYLOR & BRUCE A. TAYLOR AND CYNTHIA MORT PRODUCED BY JOEL SILVER SUSAN DOWNEY DIRECTED BY NEIL JORDAN
www.thebravemovie.co.uk

MTRCB Rating G All Ages Admitted
ONE NATION... UNDER DOG

Walt Disney Pictures presents
Underdog
IN ASSOCIATION WITH SPYGLASS ENTERTAINMENT
IN CINEMAS SEPTEMBER 12
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures Industries Inc.

THE BLOOD IS BACK.
The long wait is over as the hottest local anthology returns. Youngblood 3 is in the house, loaded with the best essays from 1999 to 2004 in the most concentrated Youngblood package yet. Bear witness as a generation continues its evolution. This is the Filipino youth at their most honest and most eloquent. Here are the essays that matter from the newspaper that started it all. Youngblood 3 is the young Filipino—unplugged.
Featuring essays by:
Jules Alcantara / Rain Reyes / Jose Leo Lemuel G. Caparas Jr. / Cinnamon Marcelo / Rodney L. Barayuga / Rio Cobcobo / Prairie Dawn / Ron Darvin / Agnes Fidelis C. Gloria-Pinzon / Elaine P. Lim / Purple / Ann Aberin / Squire / Alex Avila / Fitz Gerard Villafuerte / Windi Remmi Mondiguing Tapawan / Pearlsha Abubakar / Biagko / Lou Albano / Angelo Hernandez / Claudette M. Llarena / Connie Gunclayao / Maria del Rosario / Karen Mae V. Gican / B / Jerick T. Aguilar / Malou L. Redome / Jen Esguerra / Erin Batac / Ella Reyes / Eder S. Mutuc, M.D. / Donalyne Rasalan Lampa / Carlos Alfonso Q. Santos / Christela Cabreros / Adelfo Cyrus Alanis / Aleja F. Martinez / Zvach / Matthias / Raiza Katrina Abubakar / Jessica Brillantes / Gabriella S. Martelino / Sherie S. Sta. Cruz / Janie S. Cambri / Jonas Soltes / Jael Wenceslao / Paolo L. Azurin / Diana Emlano / Kay Stephanie Veloso / TJ / Dawn Isobel Yu Aquino / Roel A. Andag / Paolo David / Florianne Jimenez
YOUNGBLOOD
Edited by Jorge V. Aruta and Ruel S. De Vera
P395 bookpaper P150 newsprint
Now available from National Book Store and PowerBooks.
Co-published by
and INQUIRER 100

ONE UNSTOPPABLE FORCE. ONE IMMOVABLE OBJECT. ONE INCONCEIVABLE EVENT.
JET LI AND JASON STATHAM

NO LAW. NO RULES. NO LIMITS. NO RETREAT. NO SURRENDER.
OPENS SEPTEMBER 12
VIVA
ROGUE ASSASSIN

Ang Lee's 'Lust'-ful Venice entry sets screen aflame, gets NC-17 rating in US

...Lav Diaz to compete in, and close festival

VENICE, ITALY—THE VENICE FILM FESTIval opened Wednesday with "Atonement," which reunites director **Joe Wright** with his "Pride & Prejudice" star, **Keira Knightley**.

An opening night gala dinner followed at the Hotel Excelsior and was capped by fireworks.

While Keira dazzled the red carpet photographers in a peach gown and her film received a strong reception at the Palazzo del Cinema, Ang Lee's entry, "Lust, Caution," earned raves at its first press screening at the Palazzo del Casino.

A sumptuous, masterful piece of cinema, "Lust, Caution" evokes the languid movies of its period setting, the 1940s. The movie has been making news because it received a rare, restrictive NC-17 rating in the US owing to its graphic sexual scenes featuring **Tony Leung** and **Tang Wei**. The torrid, full nudity scenes in this Shanghai spy drama come late in the movie but when they do, they set the screen ablaze.

In the film adapted from a short story by **Eileen Chang**, Tang plays a patriotic student and stage actress who seduces the intelligence boss (Tony) of China's Japan-supported government during World War II. Her nationalistic group plans to assassinate Tony's character. As Tang succeeds in baiting Tony into a relationship and as they test each other's wills and motives, their sexual calisthenics involving various Kama Sutric sexual positions intensify.

But those scenes do not overshadow Ang's excellent evocation of the era and the uniformly first-rate performances of the cast which includes **Joan Chen** and **Wang Lee Hom**.

* * *

Below is part 2 of our Q&A, via e-mail, with Venice-bound Pinoy filmmaker Lav Diaz. The festival announced the international jury of the Orizzonti (Horizons) documentary section, in which Lav's "Kagadanan sa Banwaan ning mga Engkanto (Death in the Land of Encantos)," is in competition. They are **Gregg Araki** (US), **Hala Alabdalla Yakoub** (Syria), **Giogia Fiorio** (Italy), **Ulrich Gregor** (Germany) and **Frederick Wiseman** (US).

In what ways did working as a journalist in the Philippines impact your view about the challenges Filipinos have to cope with every single day? How different was your experience working for a Filipino newspaper in the US?

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

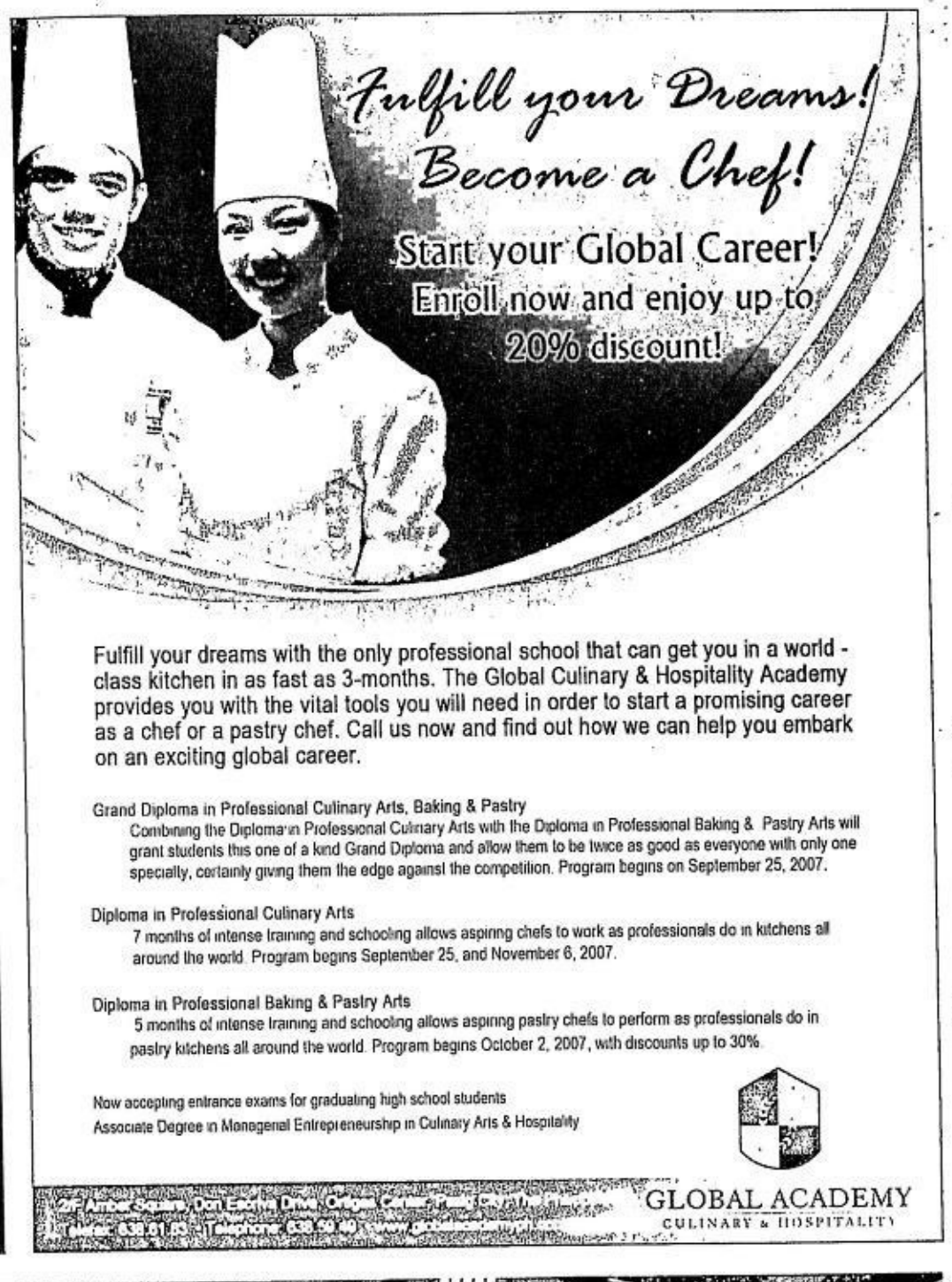
Ruben V. Nepales

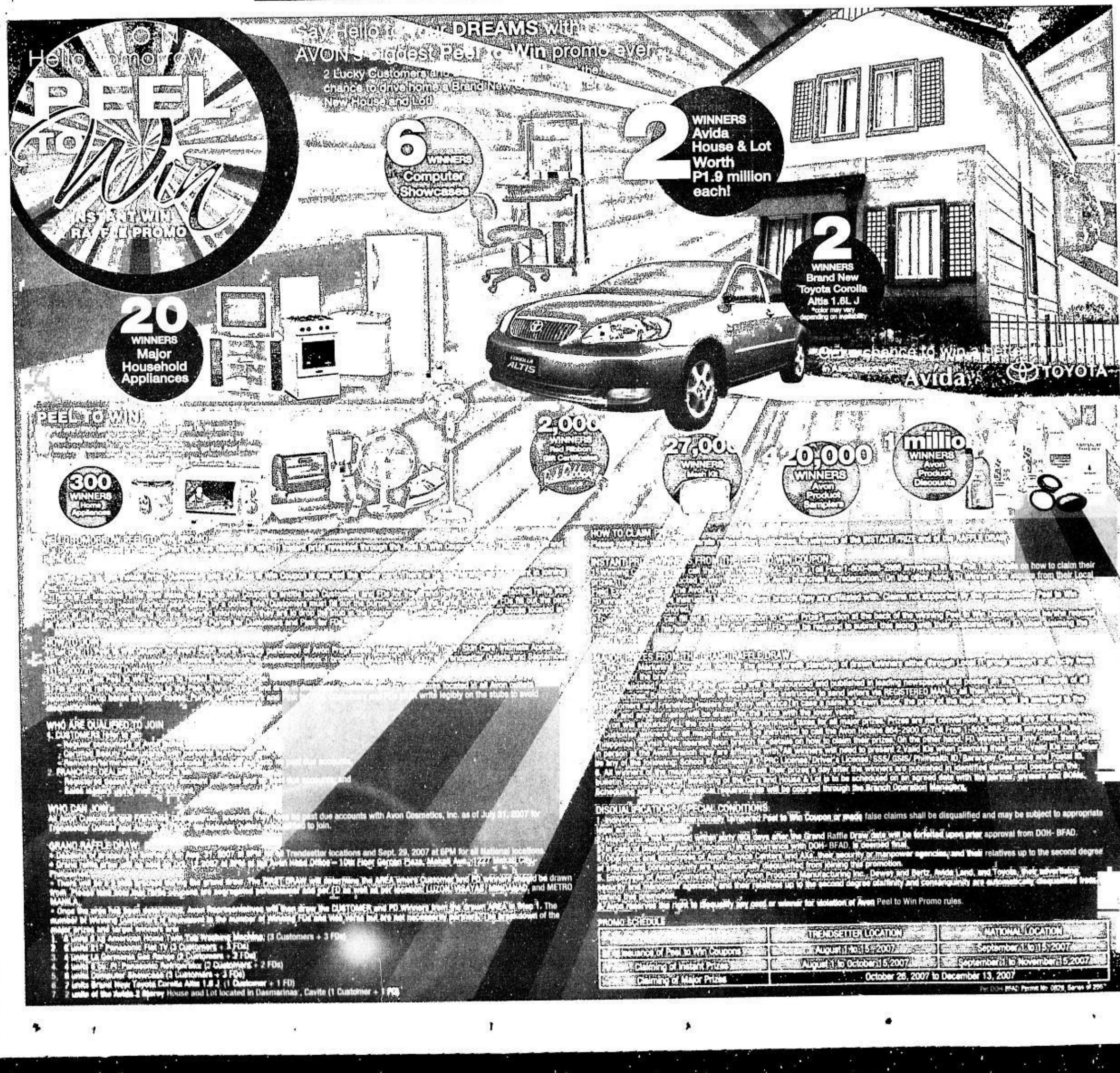
My stint as a journalist in the Philippines was quite brief, but it was brutal to the psyche. Every day you see and read all these stories, the everyday Filipino story. You were confronted by these realities and truths, the dysfunctions and displacements of our culture, and you'd need an iron heart not to get affected.

Also, you're overworked and there was not much money to feed your family. I was doing so many things. I did police beat for two short-lived English and Filipino tabloids, desk job for Taliba, feature writing for Malaya's Masa, music and film criticism for Jingle Chordbook Magazine and Manila Standard, writing *komiks* novels and short stories, writing teleplays for Balintataw, proofreading for a sports magazine.

Seeing **Lino Brocka** inside my beat, the Northern Police district jail, was unusual. He was arrested along with **Behn Cervantes** after an altercation with the police in Cubao during a massive jeepney strike. They were celebrities

ANG LEE'S / G6





F4

POWER PLANT CINEMA

ROCKWELL CENTER, MAKATI TEL: 898-1440/41

DOLBY DIGITAL

LAST LEGION PG13 12:50,3:15,5:40, 8:05,10:30	**HAIRSPRAY** G 12:40,3:05,5:30, 7:55,10:20	**1408** PG13 11:30,1:40,3:50, 6:00,8:10,10:20
EVAN ALMIGHTY G 11:30,1:40,3:50,6:00, 8:10,10:20	**BOURNE ULTIMATUM** PG13 12:00,2:30,5:00, 7:30,10:00	**THE INVASION** PG13 1:10,3:30,5:50, 8:10,10:30

MOVIES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SHANG CINEPLEX

1 **INVASION** MTRCB PG-13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

2 **HAIRSPRAY** MTRCB GP 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

3 **EVAN ALMIGHTY** MTRCB GP 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

4 **1408** MTRCB PG-13 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

PREMIERE THEATRE — BOURNE ULTIMATUM (PG-13) 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40

Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

Catch the Cineplex Special

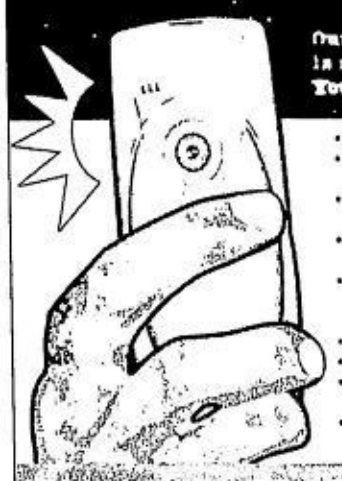
A Blockbuster Gift for all Season
The Shang Cineplex Gift Certificates
Treat your family and friends to a thrilling movie experience only at the shang.
Cinema Treats- for Cinemas 1, 2, 3, and 4
Premiere Rewards- for the Premiere Theatre

6th floor, Shangri-La Plaza Mall
EDSA corner Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Call 633-7851, loc. 171/ 170 or 633-2227 for more details.

Shangri-La Plaza

METRO

Citizen's Call



Our City of Affections and Misfortunes is made up of stories.
Your stories. Tell us all about it.

- Did a signage make your day?
- Garbage dumped on your street unmake your day?
- Street diggings forever on the street where you live?
- Are you up in arms against the demolition of an ancestral house?
- Awed by a little-known barangay project with a big positive impact in your community?
- Got stuck in potholes?
- Fed up with cussing and feuding neighbors?
- Is there an everyday role model in your neighborhood?
- Delightful/dreadful finds on your way to work?

JUST TEXT SMS: ccall name/age/location <message>
MMS: <insert photo> ccall name/age/location <caption/message>

0918.899.6666

Please don't send tips on criminal activities and scams. Call the police.

INQUIRER

OPENS SEPTEMBER 5

MTRCB RATING G General Audiences ALL AGES ADMITTED

SMALL TOWN GIRL. BIG TIME ADVENTURE.

EMMA ROBERTS
NANCY DREW
GET A CLUE.

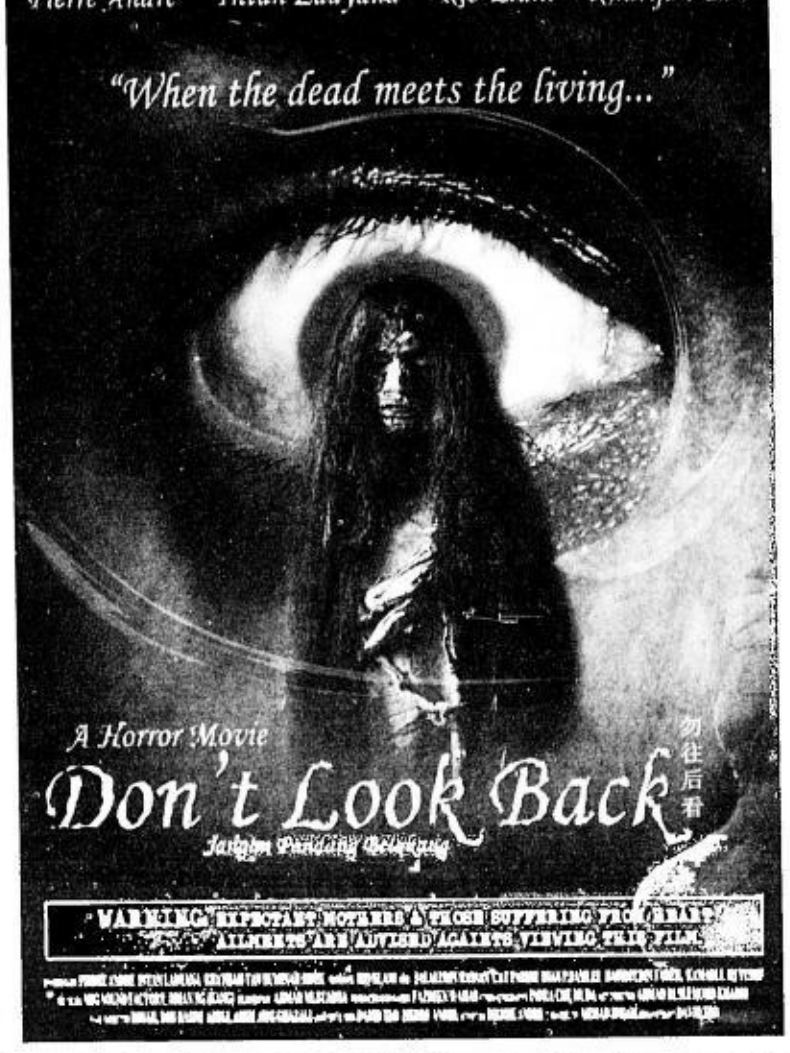
NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

NO.1 IN MALAYSIA, BRUNEI AND SINGAPORE

Pierre Andre Intan Ladyana Rjo Elani Khatijah Tan

"When the dead meets the living..."



A Horror Movie
Don't Look Back

VARNING: EXPECTANT MOTHERS & THOSE SUFFERING FROM A HEART ALLERGY TO BLOOD, VOMITING, FEVER & CHILLS

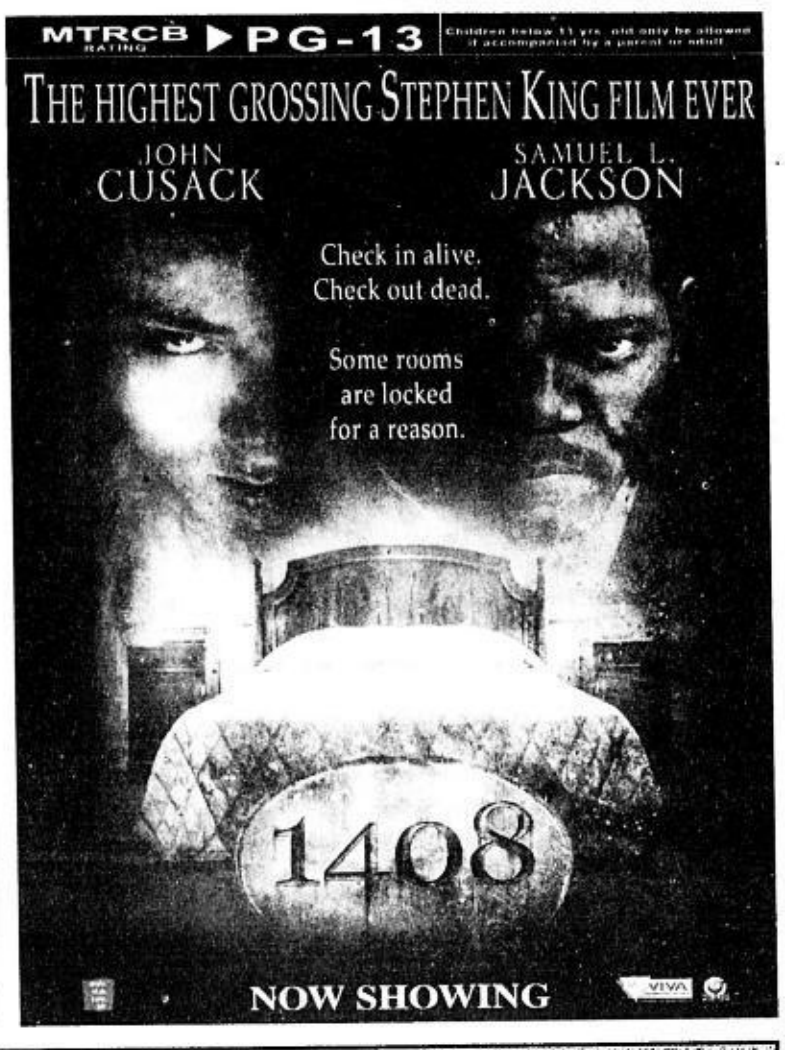
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

THE HIGHEST GROSSING STEPHEN KING FILM EVER

JOHN CUSACK SAMUEL L. JACKSON

Check in alive.
Check out dead.

Some rooms are locked for a reason.



1408

NOW SHOWING

VIVA

AT THE CINEMAS

THX

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729-7777

GLORIETTA 1	1 MY KUYA'S WEDDING	2 THE INVASION	3 RUSH HOUR 3	4 A LOVE STORY
GLORIETTA 4	1 EVAN ALMIGHTY	2 A LOVE STORY	3 THX THE INVASION GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 ARE WE DONE YET?	5 THE LAST LEGION	6 1408	7 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
GREENBELT 1	1 THE LAST LEGION		2 THE INVASION	
GREENBELT 3	1 THX THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM GUARANTEED SEATS		2 THX THE INVASION GUARANTEED SEATS	
	3 ARE WE DONE YET? GUARANTEED SEATS	4 1408 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 HAIRSPRAY GUARANTEED SEATS	
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX THE INVASION		2 1408	
	3 HAIRSPRAY	4 A LOVE STORY	5 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM	
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 THE INVASION	2 1408	3 A LOVE STORY	4 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
MARKET! MARKET!	1 MY KUYA'S WEDDING		2 THE LAST LEGION	
	3 A LOVE STORY	4 THE INVASION	5 1408	
TRINOMA • THX Certified • All-Digital Sound • All-Stadium Seating • Computerized Ticketing System • Recliner Seats	1 A LOVE STORY	2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING	3 EVAN ALMIGHTY GUARANTEED SEATS	4 RUSH HOUR 3 GUARANTEED SEATS
	5 1408	6 THE LAST LEGION / HAIRSPRAY	7 THX THE INVASION GUARANTEED SEATS	

AT THE MALLS

CONCIERGE HOTLINE NUMBERS:
Glorietta - 752 7272
Greenbelt - 757 4853 to 54
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; 772 1660
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc. 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519
TriNoma - 901 3000

Ayala Malls

glorietta
Ansons Exhibit
August 20 to September 2, 2007 at the Activity Center

GREENBELT
Greenbelt 5 Sneak Peek presents Collection of Avatar
August 20 to September 10, 2007 at the Greenbelt 3 Lobby

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Alabang Town Center Grand Grocery Shopping Spree Promo
July 1 to August 31, 2007; Mallwide

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Elliot Yamin of American Idol Live!
September 26; 6 PM; OnStage (Cinema 1)

MARKET! MARKET!
Auto Cycle 2007
August 31 to September 2, 2007 at the Central Plaza

Onstage
Repertory Philippines presents Disney's CINDERELLA Kids
at REP's Globe Theater - Opens August 11, 2007
For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM
Pioneers of Philippine Art: Transnationalism in the Late 19th - 20th century
June 15, 2007 to January 6, 2008 at the 3rd Floor Gallery
For more info, pls. call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 14 or email museum_inquiry@ayalamuseum.org

Tri Noma
Samsung Exhibit
An exhibit of the latest Samsung mobile phones
September 14 to 16; 10am to 9 pm; Starbucks / Food Choices Level 2

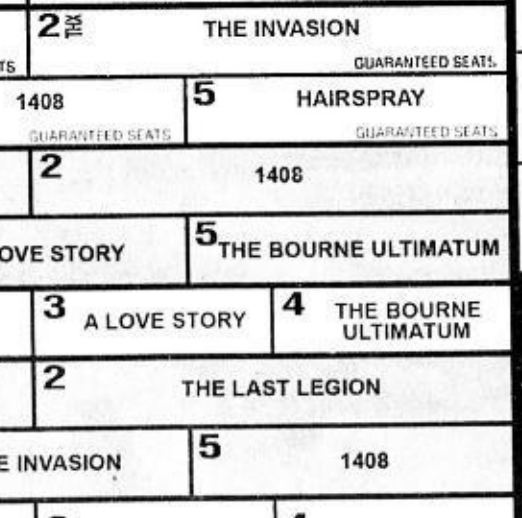
THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL SILENT FILM FESTIVAL

The Adventures of Prince Achmed

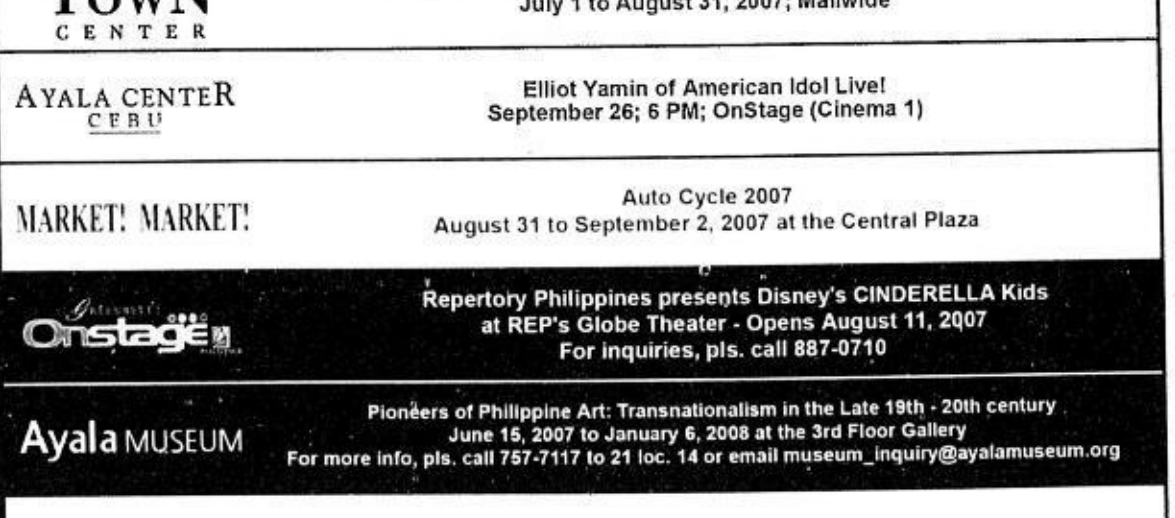
DON'T MISS CLASSIC SILENT FILMS SCORED LIVE BY THE COUNTRY'S BEST ARTISTS

SEPTEMBER 4 THE ADVENTURES OF PRINCE ACHMED
Music by Drip
SEPTEMBER 10 THE SIXTH SENSE
Music by Wahjuara
SEPTEMBER 13 A MONSTER SERPENT
Music by Mahiling Ensemble

GREENBELT 3 CINEMA 2, 8PM
TICKETS SELLING STARTS AT 4PM



VoCard



glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN CENTER AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! TriNoma

FEEDBACK

Not 'Idol'

From Grace Que (marygraceque@hotmail.com), 608 W Sunderland Ave, Chester Springs, PA 19425:

"Britain's Got Talent" is not the equivalent of "American Idol." Its equivalent is "America's Got Talent." And the winner for this season is ventriloquist Terry Fator. Thanks. (Right, thank you.)

True acting

From May Lim (maygalsim@hotmail.com), Millbrae, California:

I truly enjoy reading Mr. Torre's column. It's good to know there are people who value the "true meaning of what acting is all about." I've read numerous columns of show biz writers but all they write are *chismis*. I do hope *may pag-asa pa ang ating* entertainment industry to surpass our Asian neighbors in making quality films.

Joey sings . . .

From page F2

desire to reach your highest potential and answer your highest calling."

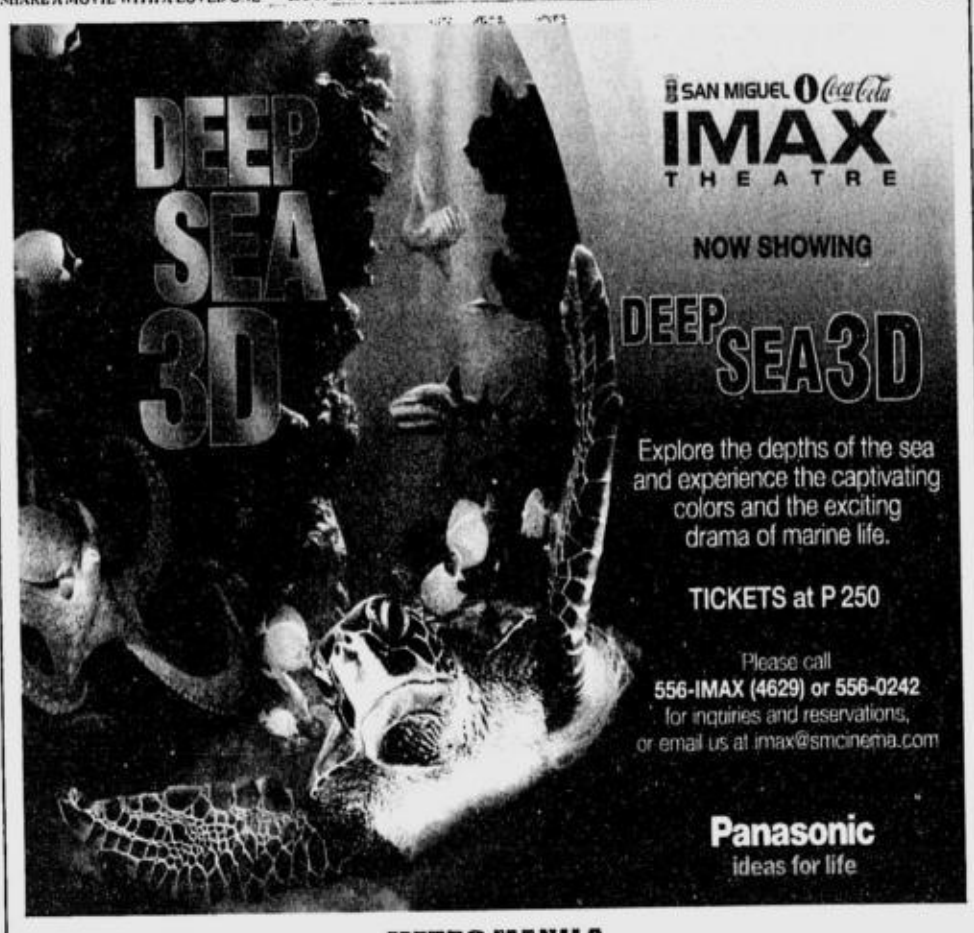
As GK ambassador, Joey includes segments of GK projects in all her shows.

She explains: "I show video clips of GK, and also of my visits—with my children—to Baseco, an urban poor community in Tondo. I want to reach out to as many Filipinos abroad as possible, and get them interested in going home to see how GK is uplifting the poor."

Joey relates how her work with GK has likewise changed the lives of donors. She cites the case of one Filipino couple in Canada, whom she met when she was invited to sing at their anniversary party. After she showed GK clips between her numbers and explained the movement's mission, the couple made a pledge for three houses right then. Every year since, they've been repeating the gesture.

"I'm 47. I've reached the half mark of my life, survived so many things," says Joey, who survived cancer of the colon after being healed of cervical cancer that struck her in the '90s. "At the end of the day, I ask myself, 'What is my highest calling?' Personally, I'm looking for it here at GK."

SM CINEMA
SHARE A MOVIE WITH A LOVED ONE
movietime SHOWTIME
VISIT WWW.SMCINEMA.COM
* Powered by WWW.YEHEY.COM
Your life as a movie
BIG MOVIES • BIG STARS • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS



SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
NOW SHOWING
DEEP SEA 3D
Explore the depths of the sea and experience the captivating colors and the exciting drama of marine life.
TICKETS at P 250
Please call
556-IMAX (4629) or 556-0242
for inquiries and reservations,
or email us at imax@smcinema.com
Panasonic ideas for life

METRO MANILA

SM MALL OF ASIA 556-0104
SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE
DEEP SEA 3D Admission Price: P250
11:30 AM • 2:30PM • 4:00 PM • 7:00 PM • 8:00PM
T-REX 3D Admission Price: P200
1:00 PM • 5:30PM
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 1408
3 INVASION
4 LAST LEGION
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 DON'T LOOK BACK/WWE
PREMIERE CINEMA
A LOVE STORY
CENTERSTAGE
EVAN ALMIGHTY
DIRECTOR'S CLUB
Bookings now accepted. Inquire at 556-2314.
THE PODIUM CINEMA
CINEMA 1
1408
CINEMA 2
INVASION
For ticket reservation, dial 6338976

SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452
1 INVASION
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 1408
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 A LOVE STORY
6 1408
7 RUSH HOUR 3
8 HAIRSPRAY/WWE
9 RISE
10 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
11 LAST LEGION
12 INVASION

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901
1 THE LAST LEGION
2 BLADES OF GLORY/WWE
3 1408
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 RUSH HOUR 3
6 INVASION
7 RISE
8 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
9 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
10 A LOVE STORY
11 HAIRSPRAY
12 DON'T LOOK BACK

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749
1 INVASION
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 LAST LEGION
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 OUIJA
7 1408
8 A LOVE STORY
9 HAIRSPRAY
10 RUSH HOUR 3
11 DON'T LOOK BACK
12 RISE/WWE

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416
1 1408
2 INVASION
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
5 A LOVE STORY
6 RISE
7 LAST LEGION
8 DON'T LOOK BACK/WWE
9 RUSH HOUR 3
10 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488
1 1408
2 INVASION
3 LAST LEGION
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 A LOVE STORY

SM SOUTHMALL 806-6888
1 1408
2 A LOVE STORY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY/WWE
4 INVASION
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
7 RUSH HOUR 3
8 LAST LEGION
9 DON'T LOOK BACK

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055
1 INVASION
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 1408
4 LAST LEGION

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 1408
4 LAST LEGION
5 HAIRSPRAY/WWE
6 INVASION
7 RISE
8 BLADES OF GLORY
9 A LOVE STORY
10 DON'T LOOK BACK
11 EVAN ALMIGHTY
12 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4323201-04
1 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 1408

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917
1 1408
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 A LOVE STORY

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975
1 1408
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 INVASION
4 LAST LEGION

SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868
1 DON'T LOOK BACK
2 1408
3 INVASION
4 A LOVE STORY
5 LAST LEGION
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
7 EVAN ALMIGHTY
8 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45
1 1408
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 INVASION
4 A LOVE STORY
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY/WWE

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17
1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

LUZON

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 BLIND DATING

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)9637681-85
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 1408/WWE
3 INVASION
4 OUIJA
5 A LOVE STORY
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY LIPA (043) 784-0187
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 A LOVE STORY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 1408

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3160
1 1408
2 A LOVE STORY
3 INVASION
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5349811
1 A LOVE STORY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 RISE

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 1408
5 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
6 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884
1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 RISE

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422
1 LICENSE TO WED
2 SINKING OF JAPAN
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 A LOVE STORY
5 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY
7 RESERVED
8 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876
1 INVASION
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 1408
5 SIGNOS/WWE
6 A LOVE STORY
7 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
8 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY BACOLOD (034) 708 1010
1 A LOVE STORY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 LICENSE TO WED

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE
MOVIEWORLD
www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA
Ticket Price THX: P160 130 IndieSine: 100 632-9116
1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM • THX
12:20 2:40 5:00 7:20 9:40
2 1408
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00
3 IndieSine: TRIBU
1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30
4 DON'T LOOK BACK
1:10 3:20 5:30
5 Reserved for VICTORY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
6 Reserved for VICTORY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
7 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00
8 A LOVE STORY
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00
9 EVAN ALMIGHTY
1:50 3:50 5:50 7:50 9:50
10 THE LAST LEGION
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

watch it only at Robinsons Movieworld Galleria AUGUST 29 to September 11

ERMITA
Ticket Price: P110 / P120
1 THE INVASION
10:10 12:35 3:00 5:25 7:45 10:00
2 DON'T LOOK BACK
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00
3 THE LAST LEGION
10:20 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:20 10:00
4 1408
10:10 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00
5 A LOVE STORY
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00
7 RUSH HOUR 3 10:10 12:00 2:00 4:00
EVAN ALMIGHTY 6:00 8:00 10:00

METRO EAST
Ticket Price: P100 / P110 682-8183 • 682-8199
1 DON'T LOOK BACK
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05
3 A LOVE STORY
10:35 1:05 3:45 6:25 9:05
4 THE INVASION
11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY 11:00 1:00 3:00
BOURNE ULTIMATUM 4:50 7:00 9:10
6 HAIRSPRAY 11:00 1:00 3:00
RUSH HOUR 3 5:00, 7:00 9:00
7 1408
11:30 1:55 4:20 6:45 9:10
8 THE LAST LEGION
11:05 1:35 4:05 6:35 9:05

NOVALICHES
Ticket Price: P80 / P100 (035) 423-1731 / 935-4220-30
1 A LOVE STORY
2 THE INVASION
3 1408
4 DON'T LOOK BACK
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
6 MY KUYA'S WEDDING

PIONEER
Ticket Price: P100 / P110 687-6378
1 1408
1:10 3:35 6:00 8:25
2 THE INVASION
1:40 4:00 6:20 8:40
3 THE LAST LEGION
1:40 4:00 6:20 8:40
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY

STA. ROSA
Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (049) 837-0907
LIPA
Ticket Price: P90 (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870
1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 RISE
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 A LOVE STORY
1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 A LOVE STORY

DASMARIÑAS
Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (046) 416-4332
IMUS
Ticket Price: P100 (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188
1 DON'T LOOK BACK
2 A LOVE STORY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
5 1408
1 DON'T LOOK BACK
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 THE INVASION
4 1408
5 A LOVE STORY

ANGELES
Ticket Price: P 90 / P95 (045) 892-2348
TARLAC
1 1408
2 A LOVE STROY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 THE INVASION
1 A LOVE STORY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

STARMILLS
Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (045) 875-1927
1 1408
2 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
3 A LOVE STORY
4 THE INVASION
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
6 RUSH HOUR 3

BACOLOD
Ticket Price: P70 (034) 441-0459
ILOILO
Ticket Price: P70.50 / P80.50 (033) 338-8070
1 LICENSE TO WED
2 RISE
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 A LOVE STORY
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY / BOURNE ULTIMATUM
1 LICENSE TO WED
2 A LOVE STORY
3 MY KUYA'S WEDDING
4 THREE
5 SINKING of JAPAN
6 RISE

Don't Look Back
This horrifying and mysterious story is about a young man named Darma (Pierre Andre) who attempts to know the cause of death of Rose, his fiancee (Intan Ladyana), who was found dead in mysterious circumstances. Darma must now work with Rose's twin sister Seri to solve the mystery behind the death.
They begin their investigation with a visit to Rose's house, where Darma finds a bottle, and Rose's digital camera, which only deepens the mystery.
Bringing these unusual evidences home, Dharma finds himself facing horrifying events that flings his life into chaos.
Given a vacation by his boss (Jalaludin Hassan) at work, Darma seeks the help of his aunt Mak Lang (Khatijah Tan), who lives with her daughter Lin (Rio Elani).
At Kampung, Darma and Seri discover the shocking truth that whatever happens, they should never dare LOOK BACK, because when life meets death, anything can happen!
now showing at all
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

No need for Shaina to worry about Angel Locsin

By the Entertainment Staff

HAS FORMER GMA 7 STAR Angel Locsin's transfer to ABS-CBN sparked a game of musical chairs among talents of the two top networks?

Robin Padilla, who co-starred with Angel in the Kapuso series "Asian Treasures," has allegedly sent feelers to ABS-CBN. His "reunion" with Angel in the Kapamilya channel, however, has gone *pfft*. It's because he has a "live" contract with both the TV and movie arms of GMA 7, a source told Rushes.

ABS-CBN teen star Shaina Magdayao was supposedly ruffled by Angel's move and contemplated transferring to GMA 7.

The jury's still out on this one. If you ask us, all that Shaina needs is time, training and the full trust of Kapamilya bosses.

Waterworks

Is it true that Ai-Ai de las Alas' flight to GMA 7 was aborted after a top ABS-CBN exec cried buckets in front of her? As in waterworks, reports an insider. The same snappish source says, "What Ai-Ai doesn't know is, *that* exec is a better actress than

SNOOKY SERNA

RUSHES

Wendy Valdez."

One-two punch

This one is confirmed: Boxing champ Manny Pacquiao, an ex-Kapamilya, is now a Kapuso

He was set to sign up with GMA 7 yesterday, but the big to-do was moved to next week. We hear that Pac Man will do a sitcom. However, an insider insists that the new show's format is still undecided. An action-musical? A singing contest for boxers?

Marian's gain

An insider confirms that Angel's next movie will be under Star Cinema, with Piolo Pascual—and that Angel's planned Regal Films project with Dennis Trillo has a new leading lady: Marian Rivera.

Bye, bye RPN

Mia Concio has resigned as president and CEO of the government-controlled station RPN 9, effective Friday. She told Rushes that she was joining the private sector.

***

Top of the tabloids

The top show biz stories in local tabloids this week. (And why we are moved, if we are moved.)

•Rhian Ramos, *sandosenang lalaki na ang nakahalikan!*

•Katrina Halili, *kinakarir ang*

SHAINA MAGDAYAO

kissing scene *nila ni* Goma; *kaya pinababantayan ni* Lucy *ang asawa.*

Inanimate liar

•*Patong-patong na kaso, haharapin ni* Bong Alvarez.

•*Ayon sa misis ni* Bong, *sinungaling daw ang* video *ng* ABS-CBN!

•Almira Muhlach, *kakalasan na si* Bong Alvarez?

Help!

•Snooky, *inaming* squatter *na sila ng* 2 *anak niya!*

•*Mga anak ni* Snooky, *suportado ni* Ricardo!

•Snooky, type *balikan si* Ricardo! Ricardo, *pakakasal sa* girlfriend. (*Bilis*, girl!)

•Will somebody please help Snooky?

'Kay bilis naman...'

•Ai Ai admits jump try: *Naipit ako, wala akong trabaho.*

•Ai Ai, *nag-*sorry *sa* GMA 7.

•Ai Ai, *tatlong araw nabaliw!*

•*Bagong direktor ni* Cristine, imported from Hong Kong.

•Direktor *ni* Cristine Reyes, *'di pwedeng tsugihin.*

•Direktor, *tsugi na sa* movie *ni* Cristine.

Desires department

•Anne Curtis *pinagnanasaan ni* DJ Mo!

•Kristine Hermosa, Angel Locsin at Iza Calzado, *bibinyagan si* Diether Ocampo.

•Kristine, *kinikilig sa panliligaw ni* Diether!

•Kristine Hermosa *may ka-*affair *na* foreigner-looking guy.

New loves for old

•*Si* Yasmien Kurdi *na ang* drama princess *ng* GMA 7!

•Echo, *'di pa rin tanggap ng mga magulang ni* Heart.

•*Si* Karylle *pa rin ang labs pero...*Dingdong *'di kayang mawala si* Marian *sa buhay niya.*

•Karylle, *'di* banned *sa* set *ng* 'Marimar'.

•Karylle *tanggap ang relasyong* Dingdong-Marian!

•Luis Manzano *walang balak ligawan si* Angel Locsin! (Promise?)

Regrets and losses

•*Wala nang* career *si* Jennylyn Mercado!

•Jennylyn, *naghihirap na.*

•Angelika dela Cruz, *sising-sisi sa paglipat sa Dos.*

•Rica Peralejo *gustong tumandang dalaga?*

•Rica *inaatrasan ng* producers.

•*Nakawan sa bahay ni* Rufa Mae, inside job?

•Rufa Mae, "ginalaw" ng magnanakaw?

Short fuses

•PBB housemates may galit din kay Laurenti Dyogi?

•Producer sa Guam, *umuusok sa galit sa* manager *ni* Sitti.

•Co-prod *ng* Billy Crawford concert, *umatras sa laki ng gastos!*

•Bianca Gonzales, *napipikon kapag tinatanong tungkol kay* KC Concepcion.

•Lani Mercado, *'di pa handang makipag-bati kay* Gretchen Barretto.

•Pops *galit pa rin kay* Martin.

JOEY DE LEON

•Mother Lily *umiyak sa sobrang kaligayahan.*

Weddings, ahoy?

•Dominic Ochoa wants to get married in Milan. (*Siya lang?*)

•*Sa pag-amin na may asawa ang* boyfriend *niya:* Vina Morales *posibleng kasuhan!*

•Kyla *at* Rich Alvarez, *kasal na?*

•Kyla at Rich, *nagpapagawa na ng bahay.*

•Vic Sotto at Pia Guanio, *parang mga bata sa* Hong Kong.

Story of the week

•*"Walang dayaan!"*—ABS-CBN

•Willie Revillame blasts Joey De Leon

•*"Joey, pareho lang tayong may kaso!"*-Willie

•Willie, *supalpal kay* Joey: "Explain before you complain!"

•Willie: "*Wala akong dapat i-*explain *dahil walang nagko-*complain!"

•Joey kay Willie: *"Mayabang talaga ang* animal *na 'yan!"*

•*Pera at hindi si* Willie *ang dinadayo sa* 'Wowowee'.

This story should go away already

•Ruffa not ready to join husband Yilmaz in Turkey.

•Ruffa, *natatakot nang masaktan muli ni* Yilmaz!

WILLIE REVILLAME

•Ruffa, *umaming 'di sila nagsiping ni* Yilmaz.

•Yilmaz *bibili ng bahay at* condo *sa Pinas bago umalis.*

•Ruffa feel *pang bigyan ng* second chance *si* Yilmaz.

•Yilmaz *magulong kausap.* (*Si* Ruffa *daw, hindi.)*

•Ruffa, *aminado sa posibilidad na magbalik ng* Turkey. (*Kitam?*)

Another story that should go away already

•'Papa' *ang tawag ni* Regine *kay* Ogie.

•*'Kumare' ang tawag ni* Michelle *kay* Regine.

•Michelle says Regine is part of her family. (Obvious *ba?*)

•Regine, *malaki ang utang na loob kay* Michelle. (It has a name, too.)

•*Magulang ni* Ogie, *sabik* nang magka-apo kay Regine

•Regine, *dapat na talagang magmadaling mabuntis!*

•Regine at Ogie, *ikakasal na sa* 2008.

•Ogie, *sabik na pakasalan si* Regine.

•Ogie *dedma kung may karelasyon sa* Australia *si* Michelle.

•Regine vindicated *sa relasyon nila ni* Ogie.

Ang Lee's 'Lust'-ful Venice entry ... From page G3

and you see all these movie stars, politicians, activists, intellectuals, students and groupies trooping to their small cell. The scene was hardcore camp and fiesta. I wanted to recreate that scene in one of my films.

The brief but close encounters with the late great **Jose Burgos** and **Rogelio Sikat** was unusual, too; Ka Roger became a good friend. He wrote letters to me while I was struggling in New York.

Working for the weekly Filipino newspaper Filipino Express in Jersey City and New York City was real hard labor, mentally and manually; you do everything, from writing to mixing chemicals for those old press machines and then the layout. But it still was a very rewarding experience. You see and experience the Pinoy diaspora in the area and my five-hour film "Batang West Side" is the result of that.

How is your faith in the Filipino holding up these days?

There's hope despite the endless building of malls throughout Edsa and throughout the land. There's hope even if we still have a very corrupt and neglectful system. We cannot allow cynicism to rule us.

What are your 10 favorite Filipino films? Which of these films made a big impact on you as a child?

Not just 10 . . . "Maynila: sa Kuko ng Liwanag," "Insiang," "Kundiman ng Lahi," "Matimbang ang Dugo sa Tubig," "Galo Gimbal," "Nunal sa Tubig," "Kisapmata," "Salome," "Moises Padilla Story," all the early **Dolphy** and **Chiquito** movies. I love watching old black and white Pinoy movies, *kahit na ano*...

I don't know why but this particular scene is just the most powerful cinema image that has forever hovered in my mind. I saw this as a child and to this day I kept going back to this scene from the black and white **Fernando Poe Jr.** movie, "Matimbang ang Dugo sa Tubig," where two young brothers, who were kids, were accidentally separated by the confusion and chaos wrought to Filipinos by the coming of the Japanese invaders. There was this truck; everybody was pushing...trying to hop on it and grab a space and escape; it was evacuation time; one of the brothers got in and the truck suddenly pulled away, leaving one of the brothers. He tried to run after the truck till it was gone from his sight. It was so sad and horrifying.

Another movie that really made a great impact on me as a young man is the **Joseph Estrada** starrer, "Galo Gimbal." Great black and white images, very sharp contrasts in lighting, even good performances. It was that stunning then. There were just two characters, the criminal and the devil. Erap is the criminal and the late great **Johnny Monteiro** was Satan. The criminal was carrying a heavy wooden cross along deserts, forest, rivers and rough roads. The devil kept reappearing, teasing and engaging him on a great discourse about God, good and evil, suffering and pleasure. Wow. Where is this film now?

LAV DIAZ won the 2005 Gawad Urian for his "Ebolusyon." JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

You will turn 50 next year. What were the high and low points of that past half a century for you on a personal and professional level?

December 30 next year, I'll be 50. The high points are the births of my children. I still get high every time I think about their coming to this world. Low points? I know I have wasted so much time.

Non-condescendingly, I can say that I am quite satisfied now with my aesthetic struggle in my cinema...But the discourse continues every day. The struggle continues.

On a lighter note, when you go on long trips, what are your must-bring items?

A few black shirts, two pairs of pants, a toothbrush, a book, a guitar, a harmonica and a camera.

Have you been able to hang out with Quentin Tarantino while he's in Manila? What do you think about his obsession for films by Cirio H. Santiago, Gerry de Leon and Eddie Romero?

No. I was holed up in my small studio doing post for "Encantos" during his stay here. But according to **Tikoy Aguiluz**, Tarantino's must-see film, his choice, was "Batang West Side." The date was set, he sat inside the theater waiting, but horror of horrors, the print of the film didn't show up. He tried to watch a very dirty VHS copy but he gave up. He said he wanted to see the film in a more tolerable set-up and form.

Tarantino being "obsessed" with the B-movies of **Gerry Leon**, Eddie Romero and **Cirio Santiago** is amazing. Maybe he saw some unique verities in those Filipino movies to be that excited about them.

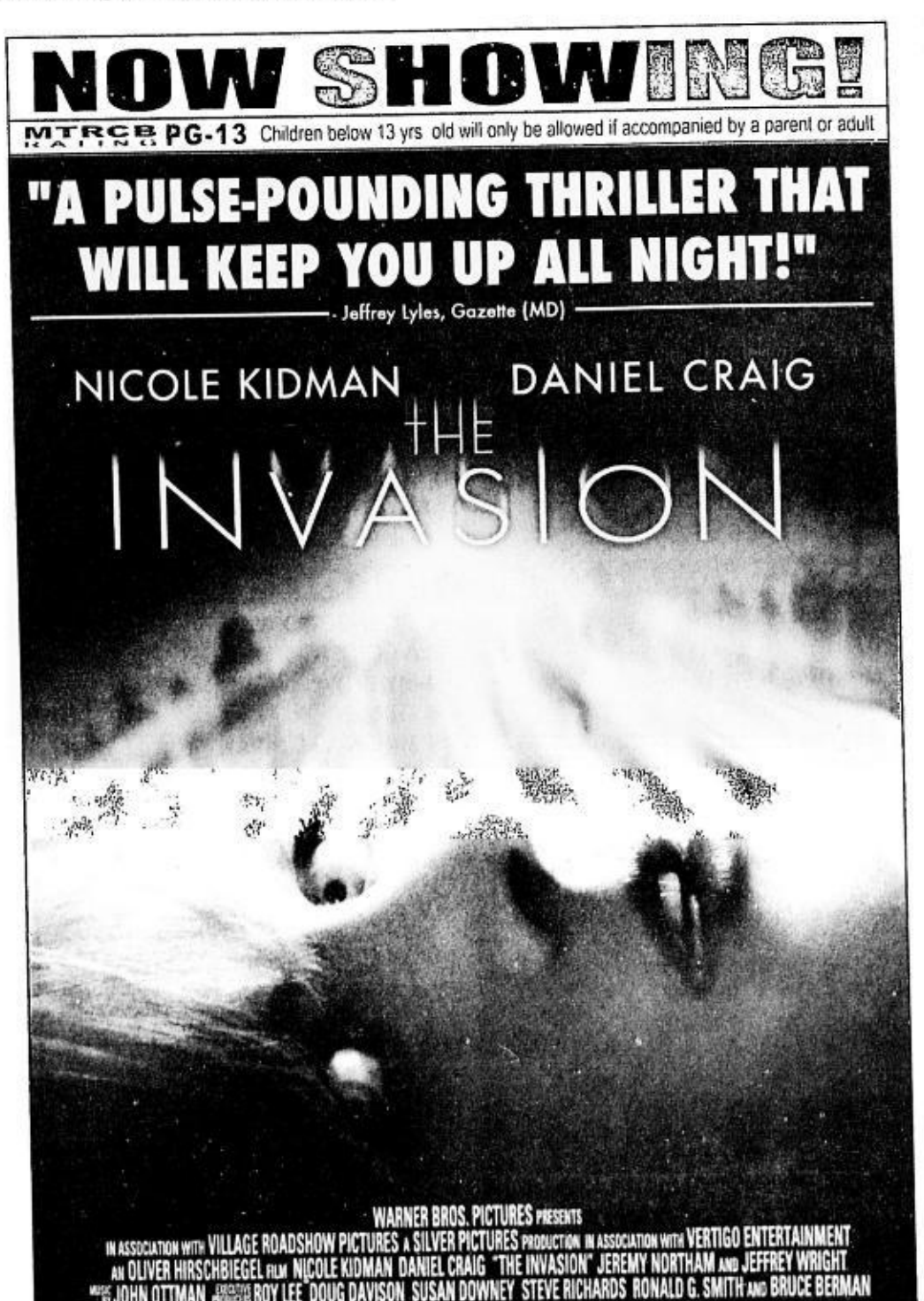
If you had the time, money and resources to do the ultimate Lav Diaz film, what would that film be?

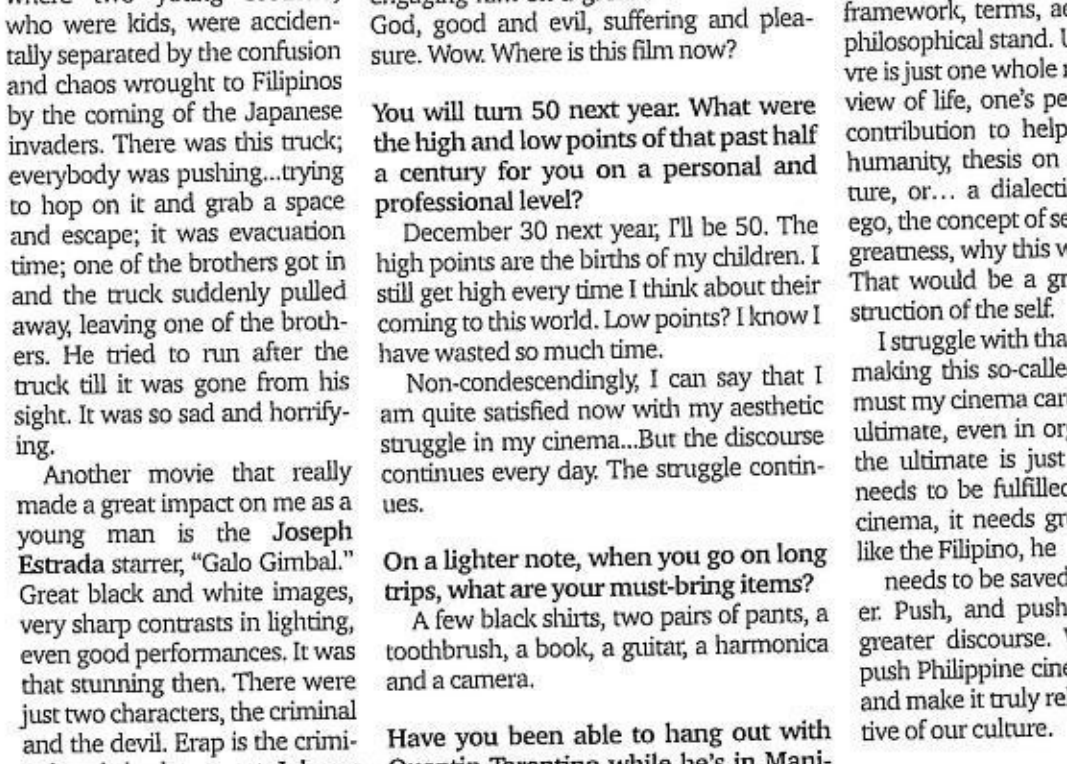
I can't really give a definitive answer because I do have a lot of dream projects. I will still make the same films, in my own framework, terms, aesthetic struggle and philosophical stand. Ultimately, one's oeuvre is just one whole representation of one view of life, one's perspective on culture, contribution to help perfect or improve humanity, thesis on time, space and nature, or... a dialectic on the mystery of ego, the concept of self, why do we aim for greatness, why this world is so full of ego? That would be a great premise, the destruction of the self.

I struggle with that question—why am I making this so-called long cinema? Why must my cinema care? We struggle for the ultimate, even in orgasm, but in the end, the ultimate is just that, a concept that needs to be fulfilled. Just like Philippine cinema, it needs greater fulfillment. Just like the Filipino, he

needs to be saved. We must work harder. Push, and push more, and push for greater discourse. We must continue to push Philippine cinema to greater heights and make it truly relevant and representative of our culture.

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com and read his blog, "The Nepales Report," on www.inquirerbloggers.net/nepalesreport.





CAST member Keira Knightley arrives for the screening of "Atonement," which opened the Venice Film Festival at the Cinema Palace on Wednesday. "Atonement" is an adaptation of Ian McEwan's novel about a girl who makes a false accusation with tragic results and tries to atone for her mistake. REUTERS

'Kubrador' and 'Kaleldo' ...

From page F1

Picture is "Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo," highest grosser in the 2006 Metro Manila Film Festival.

The awarding ceremonies, to be produced by APT Productions, will be broadcast on RPN 9.

The Manunuri ng Pelikulang Pilipino is chaired by Mike Rapatan of the Department of Communication of De la Salle University. The members are National Artist Bienvenido Lumbera, former Movie and Television Review and Classification Board chair Nicanor Tiongson, columnist and broadcast personality Butch Francisco, Malaya editor and MTRCB member Mario Hernando, UP College of Mass Communication professor Gigi Alfonso, UP professor Rolando Tolentino, and INQUIRER editor and UST professor Lito Zulueta.

Other nominees:

Supporting Actor: Rafael Roselle ("Rome and Juliet"); Allan Paule, Lauren Novero ("Kaleldo"); Archie Adamos ("Raket ni Nanay"); Ping Medina ("Tulad ng Dati"); Eppi Quizon ("Rotonda"); Soliman Crus ("Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo"); Domingo Landicho ("Kubrador")

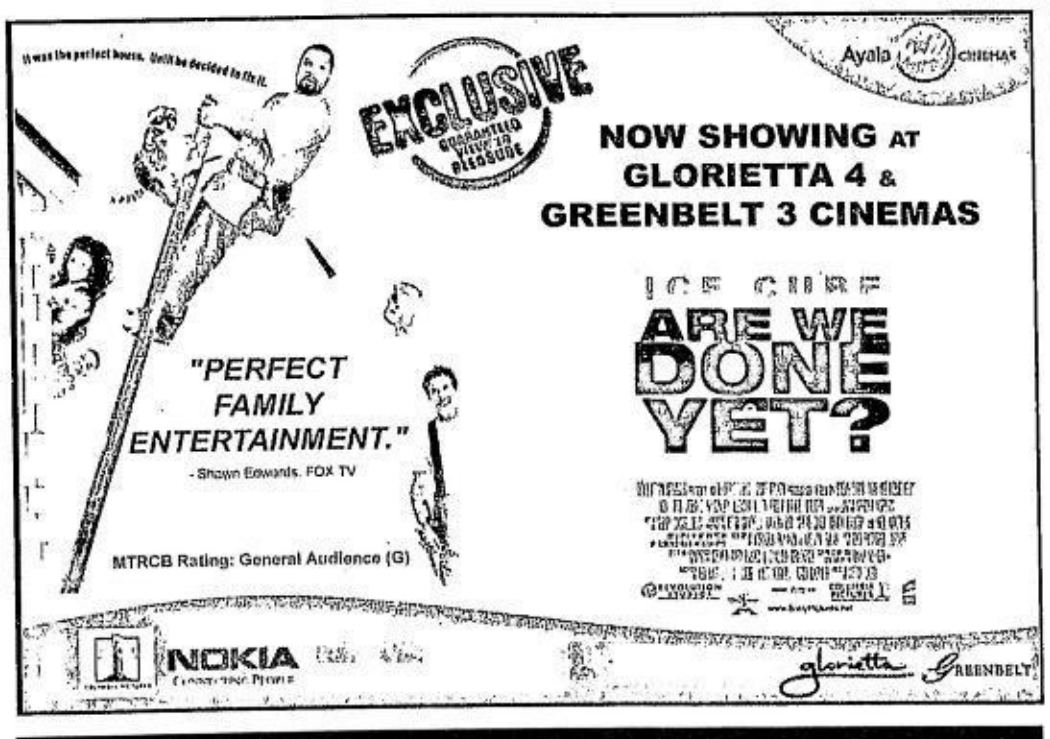
Supporting Actress: Gloria Diaz ("Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo"); Liza Lorena ("Inang Yaya"); Tala Santos ("Inang Yaya"); Tessie Tomas ("Rome and Juliet"); Agot Isidro ("Tulad ng Dati"); Gina Pareno ("Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo"); Pops Fernandez ("Zsa Zsa Zaturnah"); Meryll Soriano ("Rotonda")

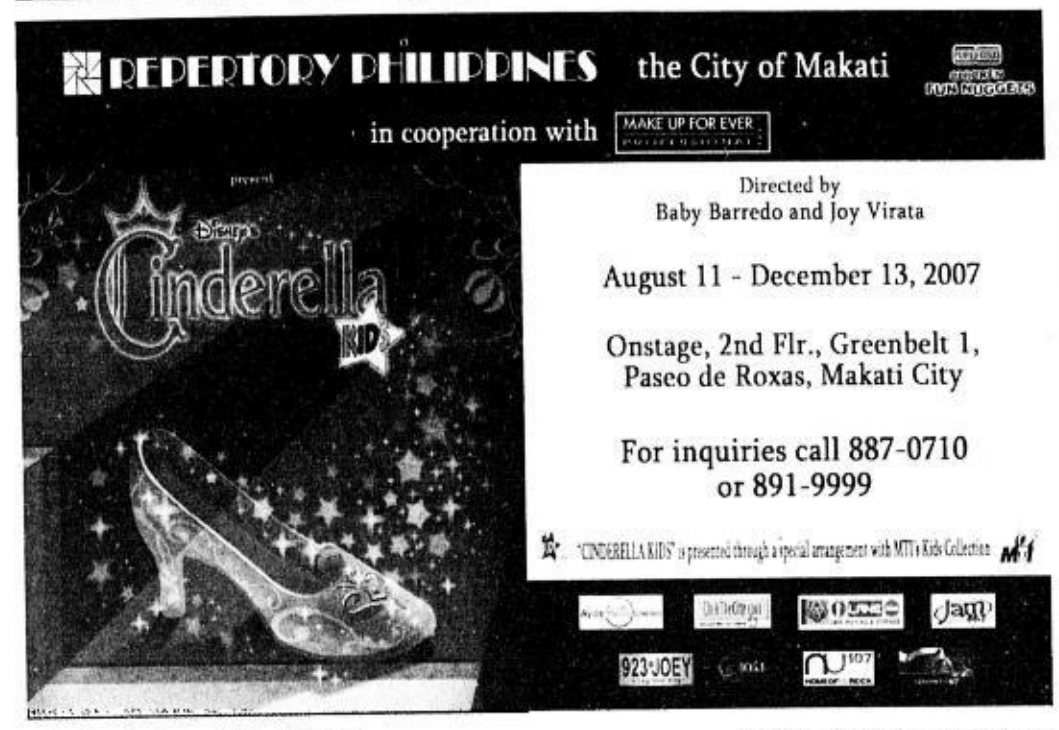
Actor: Ryan Agoncillo ("Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo"); Mark Gil ("Rotonda"); Rustom Padilla ("Zsa Zsa Zaturnah") Alcris Galura ("Batad"); Mario Magalona ("Rekados"); Jett Pangan ("Tulad ng Dati"); Sid Lucero ("Donsol")

Actress: Judy Ann Santos ("Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo"); Maricel Soriano ("Inang Laya"); Cherrie Pie Picache ("Kaleldo"); Angel Aquino ("Kaleldo"); Gina Pareno ("Kubrador"); Jonalyn Ablong ("Manoro"); Mylene Dizon ("Rome and Juliet"); Andrea del Rosario ("Rome and Juliet")

Director: Connie Macatuno ("Rome and Juliet"); Jeffrey Jeturian ("Kubrador"); Jose Javier Reyes ("Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo"); Brillante Mendoza ("Kaleldo, Manoro"); John Torres ("Todos, Todos, Teros"); Joel Lamangan ("Zsa Zsa Zaturnnah"); Sherad Anthony Sanchez ("Huling Balyan")

Picture: "Huling Balyan ng Buhi" (CPI/Cinemaone Originals); "Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo" (Star Cinema); "Kaleldo" (Centerstage Productions); "Kubrador" (MLR Films); "Manoro" (Centerstage Productions); "Todos, Todos, Teros" (John Torres); "Rome and Juliet" (CPI/Cinemaone Originals).





MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

SHANG CINEPLEX
6th Floor Shangrila Plaza (SM Megamall Bldg. corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633 2227 / 13 / 18 Loc. 111

1 (DOLBY) INVASION
2 (DOLBY) 1408
3 (DOLBY) EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 (DOLBY) HAIRSPRAY
PREMIERE
(DOLBY) BOURNE ULTIMATUM

CINEMA 2000 Waltermart Makati
Waltermart Center, China Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pso del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

1 THE INVACION
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 MY KUYAS WEDDING

stmall
(Mandaluyong) tel. 7286150

3 A LOVE STORY
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) MY KUYAS WEDDING
5 RESERVED

metropolis star cinema
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 5433994

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 1408
3 LAST LEGION
4 A LOVE STORY

THEATRES
(Pacific Mall Lucena)
1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 A LOVE STORY
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC
Pacific Mall Lucena Tel. (042) 660-5271

A LOVE STORY
MY KUYAS WEDDING
RESERVED
RESERVED

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DOLBY) 1408
2 (DOLBY) RUSH HOUR - 3
3 (DTS) THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 (DOLBY DTS SDDS) THE INVACION
5 (DOLBY DIGITAL) LAST LEGION
6 (DOLBY DIGITAL) EVAN ALMIGHTY
7 (DOLBY DIGITAL) THE INVACION
8 (DTS) MY KUYAS WEDDING
9 (DOLBY DIGITAL) A LOVE STORY
10 (DOLBY DIGITAL) DON'T LOOK BACK

Blue Wave CINEMA
Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sta. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927

1 (DOLBY) A LOVE STORY
2 (DOLBY) MY KUYAS WEDDING
3 (DOLBY) THE INVATION
4 (DOLBY) LAST LEGION

SUPER CINERAMA
Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228

1 (DOLBY) CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4 MY KUYAS WEDDING
5 THE INVATION

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 SIGNOS

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 833.3299 / 833.3274

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY

Center Mall Cinema
Baguio Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)

1 RUSH HOUR - 3
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5003 to 03

1 (DOLBY) 1408
2 MY KUYAS WEDDING
3 (DTS) THE INVACION
4 A LOVE STORY

Centre Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 A LOVE STORY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72

1 (DOLBY) HAIRSPRAY/BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 (DOLBY) THE INVATION
3 (DOLBY) EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 (DOLBY) 1408

CINEMA 2000
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 (DTS) A LOVE STORY
3 (DOLBY) RUSH HOUR - 3
4

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Binan) tel. (049) 4111146

1 RESERVED
2 (DOLBY) RESERVED
3 (DTS) RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 A LOVE STORY
2 MY KUYAS WEDDING
3 (DOLBY) THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Cinema 2000 Metrotown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 A LOVE STORY
3 (DOLBY) RUSH HOUR - 3
4 (DTS) BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Pianidel) tel (044) 795.3320

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 A LOVE STORY
3 (DOLBY) RUSH HOUR - 3

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 A LOVE STORY

Lianas Cinema
(Pasig) tel 640.4748

1 SIGNOS
2 THREE

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (DOLBY) DON'T LOOK BACK
2 KAINAN SA HIGHWAY
3 WARAT
4 (DTS) THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 MALAGKIT
3 (DTS) A LOVE STORY
4 LICENSE TO WED
5 RUSH HOUR - 3

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 MY KUYAS WEDDING
2 RUSH HOUR - 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1 PLEASE CALL
2 PLEASE CALL

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

P8

Celebrate Toy Fair at Toy Kingdom

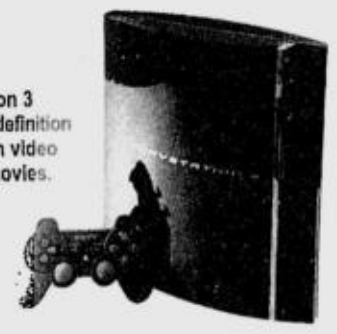
This September, be sure to zone in to the most amazing Toy Sale event of the season - the **Toy Kingdom Super Toy Fair.** Taking centerstage in the fun-filled sale event are big big savings (up to 50% off TOYRRIFIC Stuff), a very special **Puppy Dog buy at only P299.75** with a minimum P300.00 single receipt purchase.

More than that, today's hottest gadgets - the **Nintendo Wii (Japan Version)**, **PSP (Japan) Version)**, **2GB iPod Nano** - are just a toy purchase away in the most extravagant Toy Fair Raffle promo this month. Every P500.00 single receipt purchase entitles one to a raffle coupon. Promo period is from September 1 - 30, 2007.

And when visiting the store, get zoned in to the latest techie finds from Toy Kingdom's I-Zone.

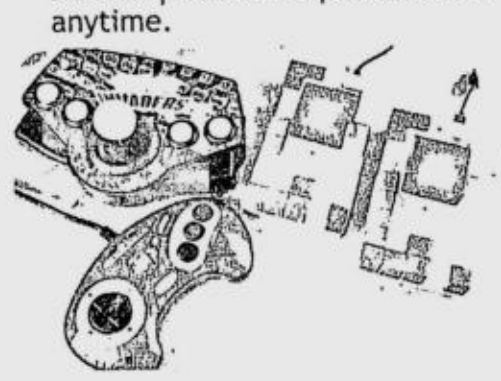
The Vtech Slimline Notebook for the little techies contain 105 activities covering English, Math, Social Studies, Science and Spanish.

- Electronic learning systems like **V-Tech**, **V.Smile**, and **Leap Frog Leap Pad** products captivate babies and kids with age-appropriate curricula, helping improve their knowledge in curriculum-based school subjects like vocabulary, science, reading, math, and many more.



The Playstation 3 outputs high-definition video for both video games and movies.

- Hand-held gaming consoles like **Gameboy Advance** and **Nintendo DS Lite** provide for portable fun anytime.



- Enjoy the most exciting virtual experiences with plug-and-play game controllers like the **Tetris 5-in-1 Game**, **Space Invaders** and **Sega Genesis**, as well as video game consoles like the **Nintendo Wii** and **Sony PS3**. Kids and adults alike will have an adventurous day under the sea, deep in the jungle, far away in outer space, or even simply simulating a rocker with a PS2-compatible electronic guitar.

Kids will have a grand time learning to play the gultar on the Topway Guitar Performance and Guitar Manla Blue Freedom V-Style Wireless.

- Just like adults, kids can have their own laptops featuring colorful graphics, animated screens, and enjoyable activities. Learning is fun as they teach kids specific school skills like vocabulary, numbers, colors, shapes, and many more. Other models even feature favorite characters like Dora the Explorer and Cinderella.

You and your child can have some bonding time together while working out on this Super Arena mat with body sensor.

Catch the fun! Enjoy the savings! Zone in to the Toy Kingdom Store and Toy Kingdom Express in SM Department Store in your neighborhood. And take home loads of amazing stuff, now thru September 30.

SUPER TOY FAIR

SEPT. 1 - 30

Puppy Dog only P299.75 with minimum P300 single receipt purchase at Toy Kingdom or Toy Kingdom Express

Get a chance to Win

save up to 50% off toyrrific stuff

over P2Million worth of Gadgets galore!

Every P500 single receipt purchase at Toy Kingdom or Toy Kingdom Express entitles you to join in the raffle

See mechanics poster for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3650, Series of 2007

TOY KINGDOM

THE AMAZING TOY STORE!

SM MEGAMALL • SM SOUTHMALL • SM CITY CEBU • SM CITY FAIRVIEW • SM CITY BACOOR • SM CITY ILOILO • SM CITY DAVAO • SM CITY PAMPANGA • SM CITY LUCENA
Upper Ground Floor, Bldg. A · Upper Ground Floor · Third Floor · Upper Ground Floor · Upper Ground Floor · Lower Ground Floor · Second Floor · Ground Floor, Annex 2 · Second Floor

SM CITY BAGUIO • SM CITY MARILAO • SM MAKATI • SM CITY BATANGAS • THE PODIUM • V-MALL • SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO • SM MALL OF ASIA • SM NORTH EDSA
Second Floor · Second Floor · Third Floor, SM Annex · Ground Floor · Third Floor · Second Floor · Second Floor · Second Level, Main Mall · Third Floor THE BLOCK

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Center for Health Development - Zamboanga Peninsula
MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL
Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur
Project Reference Number:_MRH-001-2007
Name of the Project: **Procurement of Goods**

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL,** through its Bids and awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of the Project : **Procurement of Goods**
Location : **Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur**
Brief Description : **Drugs and Medicines, Medical Supplies, Dental Supplies and Laboratory Supplies, X-Ray, Hospital Equipments.**

Approved Budget For the Contract : **Fourteen Million (14,000,000.00)**
Contract Duration : **Six (6) months**
Delivery Period : **Date of delivery is reflected on the approved Purchase Order (P.O.)**

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The Complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

	Activities	Schedule
1.	Issuance of Bid Documents	September 6, 2007
2.	Pre-Bid Conference	September 14, 2007
3.	Submission of Letter of Intent and Application for Eligibility	September 24, 2007
4.	Opening of Bids	September 25, 2007
5.	Bid Evaluation	September 26, 2007
6.	Post-qualification	October 10-14, 2007
7.	Notice of Award	October 15-29, 2007

Bid Documents will be available only to eligible bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000.00) to the Margosatubig Regional Hospital Cashier.

The Margosatubig Regional Hospital assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

MARGOSATUBIG REGIONAL HOSPITAL
MR. QUIRINO L. BRIONES, MPA
Acting BAC Secretariat
Poblacion Margosatubig, Zamboanga del Sur
Contact No. 09209380178

(Sgd.) **DANILO D. ALFARO, M.D**
BAC Chairman

(PDI - Sept. 2 & 6, 2007)

Honda Cars Kalookan
DRIVING SCHOOL

Safe, Conscientious and Responsible Driving, Drive the Right Way.

Honda Cars Kalookan (HCKI) Driving School

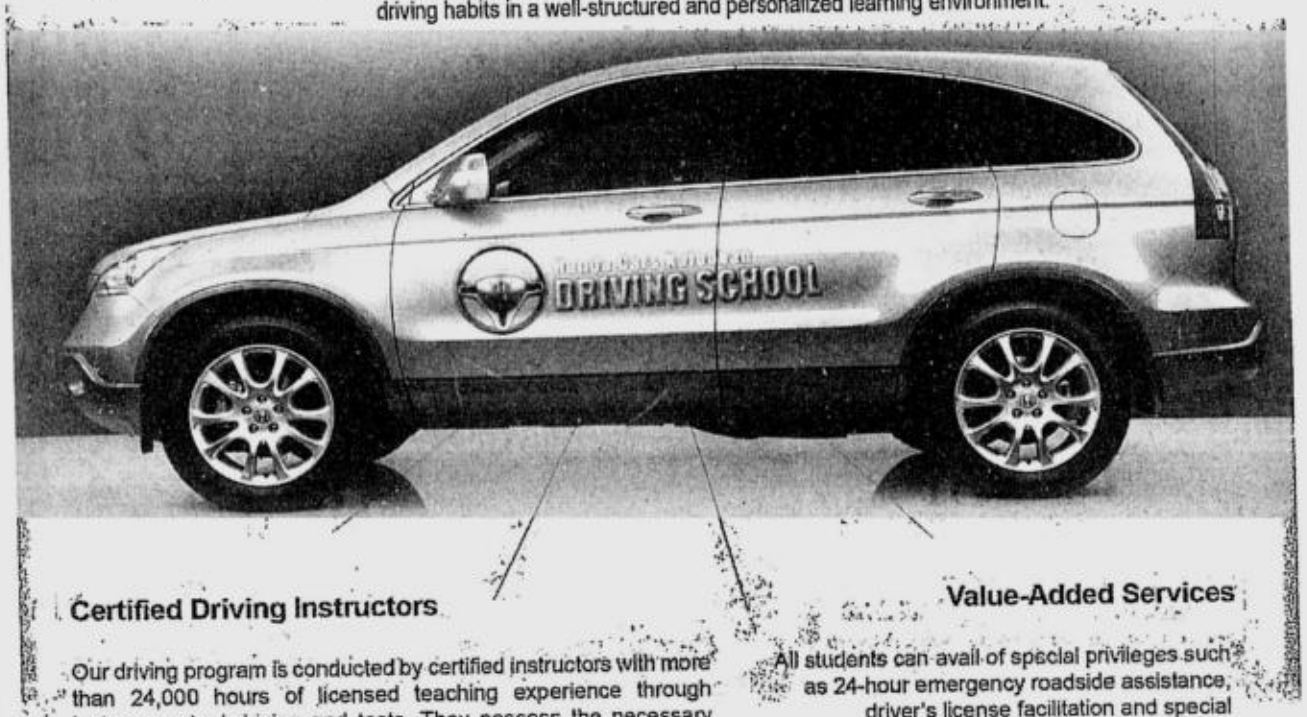
Our goal is to provide students with the best Driver's Education Training to become a safe, conscientious and defensive driver in accordance to global driving standards.

Private 1-on-1 Driving Lessons

We believe that you should be prepared to handle the thousand of untrained, inattentive drivers around you. All lessons are private 1:1 ratio, by full-time instructors in defensive driving.

Comprehensive Driving Program

The HCKI Driving School offers an extensive and varied training course conducted in an air-conditioned training room complete with audio visual facilities. We emphasize defensive driving habits in a well-structured and personalized learning environment.



Certified Driving Instructors

Our driving program is conducted by certified instructors with more than 24,000 hours of licensed teaching experience through lectures, actual driving and tests. They possess the necessary skills to handle nervous students in ever changing, complex traffic situations. They are calm, polite and are most qualified to pass on valuable experience to each student to ensure risk free driving. A Performance Evaluation is conducted after the course to assess and ensure thorough learning.

Value-Added Services

All students can avail of special privileges such as 24-hour emergency roadside assistance, driver's license facilitation and special Honda VIP insurance rates.

Honda Cars Kalookan, Inc.
598 EDSA Balintawak, Caloocan City
Contact: Mr. Mhel Marcelo
Tel. Nos.: 366-5701 to 24; Mobile No.: (0918) 990-1759
Direct Line: 362-2719, e-Mail: drivingschool@hondakal.com

PAN PACIFIC AESTHETIC INSTITUTE (PPAI)
IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICANTS FOR

COSMETIC SURGERY TRAINING

FOR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:
TEL: 421-1404
CELL: 0918-3333439
EMAIL: info@ppai7.com

Home Guaranty Corporation

Office of the President

INVITATION TO BID

The HOME GUARANTY CORPORATION (HGC) is offering for sale, in cash or installment, the "leasehold rights" of the following properties:

	PROPERTY LOCATION	TYPE	FLOOR AREA	SELLING PRICE	REMARKS
1	APEC Villa No. 9 Triboa Bay, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City	one storey house	436	32,471,210.00	fully furnished, vacant
2	APEC Villa No. 10 Triboa Bay, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City	two storey house	440	31,872,320.00	fully furnished, vacant
3	APEC Villa No. 11 Triboa Bay, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City	two storey house	433	31,982,875.00	fully furnished, vacant

General Guidelines:

1. The sale of the property shall be on an **"AS-IS-WHERE-IS"** basis.
2. All proposals shall be submitted on or before September 10, 2007 at 2:00 P.M.
3. All bidders may offer to buy the property in cash or installment term. Only cash sales shall be entitled to discounts:
4. Terms of Payment
   - 4.1. For **CASH SALE**, the following discount rates apply:
     10%, spot cash
     6%, if paid in full within 30 days from signing of sales documents
     4%, if paid in full within 60 days from signing of sales documents
     2%, if paid in full within 90 days from signing of sales documents
   - 4.2 For **INSTALLMENT SALE** (discounts are not applicable)
     10% minimum downpayment
     Balance payable in equal monthly installments over a maximum of twenty (20) years at eight percent (8%) interest per annum
   - 4.3 **LEASE TO OWN**
     Maximum Term – Five (5) years
     Minimum Rental Rate – P100,000.00
     Other conditions:
     a. Rental payments shall be credited to the total selling price depending on which year the option to buy is exercised:

Period within which lessee may exercise option to buy	% Application
1st year	100
2nd year	90
3rd year	80
4th year	70
5th year	60

     b. Annual escalation rate on monthly rental fee : 6%
     c. Other standard terms and conditions under HGC's Rent-To-Own Program
5. Bidding documents can be secured from the Asset Management Disposition Group located at the 4th Floor Jade Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P5,000.00.
6. The sealed bids should be dropped in the designated drop box located at the Asset Management Disposition Group, 4th Floor Jade Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City on or before September 10, 2007.
7. All bidders are enjoined to inspect the property before submitting their bids.
8. The award of the sale covering the property shall be based on the offer determined to be most advantageous to the Corporation.

For inquiries, please call our Marketing and Sales Department at 896-04-25 or 897-31-49 or visit our Head Office at the Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

THE CORPORATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL OFFERS AND TO WAIVE ANY DEFECTS OR TO ACCEPT SUCH OFFERS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CORPORATION.

(SGD.) **RAFAEL P. DE LOS SANTOS**
VICE PRESIDENT
ASSET MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSITION GROUP

(PDI–Sept. 1 & 2, 2007)

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

JOB Market

Your connection to better people, better jobs.

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market

Join Asia's FIRST China Business Magazine in the Philippines!

WE ARE ABOUT TO TAKE A BIG & STRONG LEAP

Advertising Manager

Advertising Account Executives / Circulation Executives
Office Staff & Secretary / Graphic Artist / Production Supervisors
20 to 40 years of age & with Powerful Personalities

Also needed for two other publication groups
Philippine Weekends Travel Guide and Antipolo Post

E-mail your resumé to: **fairnewsmedia@gmail.com** & **fairnewsmedia2@yahoo.com.ph**
And Fax to 724-4808 or drop off (**only**) your resumé at Suite 1606 16/F Wilshire Plaza, Annapolis Street (near corner EDSA and MRT Santolan Station) Greenhills, San Juan.

(Probable-On-the-Spot Hiring to deserving & serious applicants with Great Personalities by early Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.)
ALL APPLICATIONS MAY BE ADDRESSED TO THE GROUP BUSINESS MANAGER, LOY TOBIAS. Strict confidentiality is assured.

ATTENTION PHARMACISTS!!!

REVIEW AND EDUCATION CENTER
OFFERS

ALL-UP

ORIENTATIONS AND SCREENING FOR THE 16TH BATCH OF OUR AUSTRALIAN PHARMACY PROGRAM SHALL BE HELD ON **Sept 08 & 09 : 2pm.** ORIENTATIONS FOR THE *US- FPGEE AND PEBC* SHALL ALSO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATES. LIMITED SLOTS FOR THE ORIENTATIONS!!! *First Come First Serve Basis!!!*

US-FPGEE
CANADIAN PEBC
AUSTRALIAN PHARMACY
(Australian Pharmacy Examining Committee/APEC)
(A NON-VISA REQUIRING EXAM)

REVIEW CLASSES
Include
FREE LECTURE MATERIALS AND MODULES
FREE COMPILED REVIEWERS
20 SESSIONS/160 LECTURE HOURS

100% Sept 2006 March 2007 APEC Exam PASSING RATE

FPGEE & PEBC 100% PASSING LEVEL since 2002

WITH THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE COMPILATIONS/COLLECTIONS OF THE SAMPLE FPGEE, PEBC & AUSTRALIAN PHARMACY EXAMINATIONS WHICH ARE INCLUSIVE OF THE REVIEW FEES
TOP CALIBER LECTURERS WHO ARE EXPERTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS
ALL COMING FROM U.P
AFFORDABLE REVIEW FEE

MAXIMUM OF 20 STUDENTS PER CLASS

LIMITED SLOTS ONLY !!! REGISTER NOW !!!

CLASSES START: **SEPT. 22, 2007**
FOR INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACT or REGISTER
Main OFFICE: Rm. 203 Casa Pennsylvania Condo, # 1638 Leon Guinto St., (bet Pedro Gil and Gen. Malvar Sts., at the back of PCU) Malate, Manila.
Tel No. (02) 521-4657 / (02) 498-0411 / (0919) 2764892 / (0906) 2956277 / (0920) 94-ALLUP (0920942558)
Or e-mail us at: allupreview@yahoo.com

We live by our own tradition of ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
Our PASSING RATES shall SPEAK FOR IT!!!

UNDER RENOVATION

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

SM Megamall Branch, 5th Floor Building B, from **July 30** to **September 15, 2007.**

For ad placements, please call
6350219, 6350220 *or* **8978808.**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Canada in 3 mo
Canada Govt. approved 891 0595

CRIMINOLOGISTS
Detectives/Investigators
Lie Detector Examiners
TRUTH VERIFIER SYSTEMS,INC.
Tel. nos. 634-7570/634-7571

MEDICAL

DENTAL

Eliminate BAD BREATH offer Safe & Effective Solution by using patented medicine 8114071 • 8236047

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A. Arnd COOK YAYA 9165601

DirectMaidYayaIntlCookDriver 7289060

Dirct Maid Yaya Int'cook Driver Boy 7289865

GOOD MAID YAYA COOK DRIVER BOY CAREGIVER OFFICE STAFF 438-4609

Testimada Yaya Çgiver Maide cook boy 7289834

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

BIG 2STOREY HOUSE IDEAL 4 OFFICE, ESTRADA ST., SINGALONG - 09189142677

•BIRMINGHAM•
www.hdc-realestate.com
Houses & Lots for Sale
CAINTA, ANTIPOLO, GEN TRIAS, SAN MATEO, MONTALBAN
As low as P9,038.67/mo Bank, Pag-Ibig, In House Financing Brokers Welcome 6550134; 09202202715

BNEW VIIIA DIVINA HOUSE N Lot . . # 99 Dona Josefa Avenue, North Susana Commonwealth QC 9290601 : 09155523364

DONT LOSE YOUR HOME TO FORECLOSURE SELL IT TO ME QUICK ! 3746080 / 3759829 WWW.WEBUYHOUSES.COM. P H

FOR SALE NEW APT. PARANG MARIKINA 1.2M 09209039193 8 7 9 3 0 9 2

P1.2M LAS PINAS 8054686

Pilar VIII 2BR 2TB 8014494

ROW HOUSE LUZON DR. AYALA ALABANG 115 sq. mtr. 5602227 8903558 Fri or Sat

CONDO/TWNHSE

RBNSONS G8WAY1 PIONEER NEW 1BR 38m² T-7463217

2BR 65SQM P20K 8983002 09178165684 PTAMO MKT

4 SALE OFF/STO MGAPLZA ORT. #09216901288 800K (N)

CUBAO P1.5M 10%DP 7yrs to pay 0% Interest 09178667949

LE MIRAGE
FEW UNITS LEFT!!!
As low as 30% D.P.
15yrs. Bank fin.
(P18,415.95/mo)
Ready for Occupancy
Call (02)-5225950 / 5228703
0917-8307643

NEW TWNHOUSE PROJ 6 4BR 4TB 2CG nr Trinoma/SM RENE 0916-3633975

P1.7M PASIG NR TIENDESITAS
10% DP 1Yr 0 Int P18T/Mo. 10Mins Fr Ortigas 0917-8169849

P2M C5 NR THE FORT
10% DP 1Yr 0 Int P21T/Mo. 10Mins Fr Ayala 0917-8313226

P3M BORACAY CONDOTEL
Earn P30T/Mo. or R.O.I. in 7Yrs RFO Dec 2007 0922-8883399

SENTOSIA CONDO@ Mla Bay Bnew 3sty 3BR 162m² garden P9M 30%DP RFO Oct.07 DBO 09186492579 Wanted:PT/Agents

LOT

456 sq.m.Lot,Bangkal,Makati MS. MAPAGAY 0916-3655131

Bacood 1M 45m² 09189418408

Baguio Lot 277 sqm.
At Pines Garden Villas
09189395629
02-8126940 09178420821

FOR SALE LOT CANYON WOOD-TAGAYTAY 275SQM AT PH5650/SQM. NEG PHASE 1 LOT 3 BLK 26 NEAR PAVILION CALL TINA 09178440152

PERFECT LOCATION QC cor Visayas & Congressional Ave 4 lots 79-110m² P25/m² Call 09215300021

White Plains Terraces QC. Prime Wide Frontage. 287sqm P10.4M neg DBO. 09189132996 / 09189129117

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

4527m² Lot MARIKINA, GIL FERNANDO AVE Tel 7162891

HOUSE

3br grggdn 12T 4335061 nr SSS

4BR 4FULTB LANAI GARDEN 85 MO 1YR ADV 2MO SEC DEP 7246139 / 09062167452

Ldys NR UP DILIMAN 5243126

CONDO/TWNHSE

1B 1TB Inc of asso due Loyola Hts QC P14,400 931-2294 0917-8012260

CATTLEYA GARDENS 11B SM 42T 2BR FF 8133568 8138420

CONDO for RENT , 25k/mo Unit 1509, Parc Royale Condo., J. Vargas Avenue Ortigas Ctr Pasig City Fully Furnished, Parking 4626797 / 6994480, Mricris

• EASTWUD 1BRFF 09178983175

ORTIGAS CTR-MEGAPLAZA 3BR SEMI-FURN 2PKG 29T + DUES 6330904 0916-7855507

ROXAS BLVD 2BR FF 60K/MO NR MALL OF ASIA 09273990544

STA MESA NR SMCNTRPNT 2BR UNFURN NICE GARDEN 8138420 8133568

TAGAYTAY OVERLOOKING FF 2BR 190SM 09209039193

APARTMENT

1BR nr P.GIl 5534007/5891978

2Bed Rm Studio Type Bangkal Makati 8447524

CUBAO 3BR 2T&B FA100 2STY P14K Call 440-4172

2BIG BRMS GRGE 15min to ATENEO 20min to EASTWOOD P9Th/mo T6553617 Classy

EASTGEN AIRPORT APARTEL 5.5T/mo 800/day a/c cable 8544632-33

FOR LEASE

COMM'L LOT FOR LEASE MANDALUYONG CITY TIANGGE / STALL / STORE SPACE @ 352 SHAW BLVD. SIZES - 4 TO 15 M² CALL 5355520 * 5316954 * 7182701 0917 - 8101233 TO RESERVE

BIG 2STOREY HOUSE IDEAL 4 OFFICE, ESTRADA ST., SINGALONG - 09189142677

EDSA across TRINOMA Commercial Lot 714m² 415-0773 /09158780484

ROOM & BOARD

MAKATI 8966788 8909012

ROOM - 0927-3387693

WANTED LADY BEDSPACER for 1-BR unit, own T&B Yague St. cor. Zapote Makati City (near Shopwise) 2T good neighborhood nice building CHERI 09265026301

LOAN & MORTGAGE

1%R.Estate Loan 09193317582

CASH LOAN (O.R/C.R. ONLY) LOW INT. / HI APP. 920-6695 • 926-4786 M - F

PERSONAL LOANS 524-3197

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

PASAY ROAD MAKATI 175SM AMORSOLO ST 113SM 8133568 8138420 8186820

DOÑA FELISA SYJUCO BLDG 1872 REMEDIOS COR TAFT MALATE TEL 525-6541 7-150SQM, ROOMS AVAIL

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

Custom HI Ace Toyota Van Diesel 8447524 Bangkal

CARS

'95 Honda HB VTEC d15B power steering MT P200K Call 09174196237 ; 4111952

'98 Honda Civic VTI fld Red P265T Call # 09209508672

CAR DURANGO DODGE 2002 1ST OWNER 09209039193

TOYOTA

TOYOTA VX100 LANDCRUISER
Bnew '07 Green P3,934,000
09178262824 / 09209318433

CARS

OTHER CAR BRANDS

BERYLLE CARS
Aranata Ctr Cubao nr All Mall 4391117 ; 09178212618
Finance T-In Consignment
Pajero Trooper Friendy Safari MU Largo Estima Odysey MPV Urvan Mistral Delica S.Wagon Granvia Reglus Surf ELF Canter etc Branch 2179 Taft Ave Pasay

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

VANS 9226702 9214535

CARS FOR RENT

MB100 w/Driver
734-96-92 • 0919-6048469

CAR LOAN

1% AUTOLOAN 788-0361

1% Car Lending 6560140 United Tree Car Loan Corp.

1% CARLOAN 373-6519

1% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1% EASY CARLOAN 8997759

1% Sangla ur Car 5344441

1% w/out taking car 5315577

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% easy carloan 7815352/55

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% W/O TAKING CAR 7880183-84

2% w/o Taking Car 7225647/48

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/out taking car 7262780

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

Billiards Sales / Repairs 38T Up 8014494/8020566

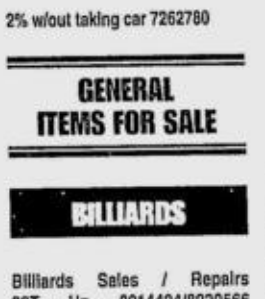
PETS

•DOG TRAINER 4525963•

•PUGS •CHIWAWA • 3725231

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING ROLEX
SWISS WATCHES BEST PRICE
7269687•0917-6884040



PAWN•BUY•SELL
ROLEX, AP PANERAI, OMEGA
CARTIER, IWC PATEK, BULGARI
SWISS WATCHES
GOLD & DIAMOND SPECIALISTS
sec•ndo Glorietta
894-0282 • 889-7956

MISCELLANEOUS

Laptop IBM P6-12T 833-2355

PUBLIC NOTICES

CAREGIVER COURSE
Study Now Pay Later T3026893
0917-7924104 • 0922-8148322

CAREGIVER COURSE
Study Now Pay Later T3026893
0917-7924104 • 0922-8148322

AUCTION SALE

MARA PAWNSHOP BR of 2239 M. Roxas St. Sta. Ana Manila Auction Sale on SEPT. 12, 2007, WED at 2:30 in the afternoon. Respectively, APR. 15- MAY. 12, 2007 SONS of J. LANUZA, Auctioneer. (PDI - SEPT. 2, 2007)

MUNOZ-BRIONES PAWNSHOP Auction-Sept. 10, 2007 All unredeemed articles from April 1-30, 2007 354 Roosevelt Ave QC 9AM Dela Rosa Makati 10AM VZamora-Auctioneer

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

MARA PAWNSHOP I, III, IV and Comembo Br. of Makati City. AUCTION SALE on SEPT 12, 2007 WED. at 10:30, 12:30, and 1:30 and 8:30 in the morning and on the afternoon, Respectively APR. 15 - MAY.12 2007.Sons of J. Lanuza, Auctioneer (PDI - SEPT. 02, 2007)

LEGAL NOTICE

Extrajudicial settlement among his heirs of Nicanor Julius A. Abad who died 11 Aug 2005 before Notary Public Atty Socrates G. Macaranas Doc No. 57; Page No. 12; Book No. 47; Series of 2007
(PDI-Aug 26, Sept 2&9, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ALBERTO MORA who died on Oct. 6, 1999 was extrajudicially settled on Aug. 24, 2007 per Doc. 450 Book VII Series of 2007 notarial register of Notary Public Dulcisimo G. Hinanay Jr. of Quezon City (PDI-Aug.26,Sept 2 & 9, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ANNABELLEE C. SINGZON consisting of her money at the Meralco Savings and Loan Association (MESALA)divided equal among her Five Children agre each of their share divided equally shall belong to Egberto Q. Singzon Entered into and ratified before Atty Romeo T. Telpo of Pasig City as per doc# 122,page# 25 Book #XIV Series of 2007.(PDI-Aug 19,26&Sept.2'07)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LUCILA G. ALMAZAN was extrajudicially settled and partion by and among her heirs as Per Doc. No. 36; Page No. 8; Book No. 5; Series of 2007 Before Notary Public of Fernando V. Balinado
PDI--Sept. 2, 9 & 16, 2007

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late VICTORIA SALUD RONQUILLO was extrajudicially settled by and among her surviving heirs. Before Atty STEPHEN G. BONGOLAN Notary Public for and in the City of Mandaluyong under Doc. No. 820; Page No. 173; Series of 2007
(PDI-Sept. 2,9,&16,2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LUCIANO S. RAMIREZ was extrajudicially settled by his heirs before Notary Public Atty Chester Ogsimer of Paranaque City per Doc No 101; Page No 22 ;Book No I; Series of 2007
(PDI-Aug 26, Sept 2&9, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ROBERTO P. OTAYZA consisting of all shares pf capital stocks at FEU-FERN REALTY CORPORATION as well as unclaimed cash/stocks devidends were extrajudicially settled by the heirs as Per Doc#204 Page#41 Book#VI Series of 2007 by Notary Public Atty. Andrew V. Ferrer of Cainta Rizal(PDI-Aug.19,26&Sept.2,2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late GASPAR D. LOPEZ and PAULITA C. LOPEZ has been extrajudicially settled among their heirs before Notary Public SOFRONIO C. UNTALAN JR as per Doc No. 304,Page No.61, Book No.CLIV Series of 2007
(PDI-Sept. 2, 9, 16,2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late CEASAR MASCARDO has been extra-judicially settled among his heirs as per Doc. No. 88, Page No. 19, Book No. XLVII, Series of 2007 before Atty. Gervacio B. Ortiz,Jr., Notary Public
(PDI-Sept. 2,9 &16,2007)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given of the loss of PETRON CORPORATION stock certificates issued to Edmund Yu Chua under stock certificate nos. 129867 & 1158355 with total no. of 2,100 shares. Should no one contest on or before September 10, 2007, new stock certificates will Issued. (PDI-Aug.26,Sept.2&9,2007)

Notice is hereby given that the following Phil. Long Distance Telephone (PLDT) Common Stock Certificates has been reported lost: MFO 180237 for 6 shares under the name of JUAN MIGUEL M. VAZQUEZ; MFO 180235 for 13 shares and MFO 231528 for 4 shares both under the name of MA. VICTORIA M. VAZQUEZ. If no contest received, new stock certificates will be issued. (PDI Aug. 19,26 & Sept. 2, 2007)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

FOOD CARTS MTO 9400119

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Attractive Restaurant space Ready to Operate Call 4539043 / 09228895662 QC Area

BARBERSHOP 4Sale 9296885

PRIME PROPERTIES FOR SALE!

1. THE MANANSALA AT ROCKWELL, MAKATI
36 SQ.M. STUDIO TYPE UNIT, WITH TOILET, AIRCON, BARE, FOR SALE AT P4.5M.
OR FOR RENT AT P40,000/MO., INCLUSIVE OF CLUB & CONDO DUES, ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR ONE YEAR.
WITH OPTIONAL PARKING SLOT,
FOR SALE AT P675,000.

2. PENINSULA DE PUNTA FUEGO LOT
LOT 6, BLOCK 23, 75 PENINSULA AVE.
660 SQ.M.
PRE-SELLING PRICE : P12,500 / SQ.M.
(NEGOTIABLE)

3. HOUSE AND LOT IN BACOLOD
(FORMERLY MONTESSORI SCHOOL)
5 NORTH DRIVE, BACK OF REDEMPTIONIST CHURCH, 600 SQ.M.
ASKING PRICE : P7M (NEGOTIABLE).

4. VILLA DE TOLEDO, STA. ROSA, LAGUNA
150 SQ.M., FACING ENCHANTED KINGDOM
ASKING PRICE : P700,000.

For inquiries, please call JAIME TRINIDAD at 521-6138 or 522-4792 (during office hours), 842-0127 or 0917-7438789.

THE CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
wishes to announce its
INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Name of Project: Supply and Installation of water-cooled chiller machine with total system capacity of 360TR.

Approved Budget for Contracts: PhP11,486,440.00

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act."

All particulars relative to the eligibility, bid evaluation and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of RA 9184.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Secretariat (c/o Cecilia E. Funtinilla) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below starting September 11, 2007 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable bid fee in the amount of Four Thousand Pesos (P4,000) only. The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The CCP BAC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on September 14, 2007; 1:30 pm, 3/F Tanghalang Pambansa CCP (Main Bldg.).

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before September 28, 2007; 1:30 pm. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of cash/certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit or bank guarantee or surety bond based on the agency approved budget for contract. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on September 28, 2007; 1:30 pm. at the 3/F CCP Main Building. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address below.

The award of the project shall be based on the lowest calculated responsive bid received from the Bidders.

The CCP reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

BAC Secretariat
Cecilia E. Funtinilla
3/F CCP Tanghalang Pambansa (CCP Main Bldg.)
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
Tel. Nos. 632-832-3667
632-832-1125 local 1106/1107
Fax No. 632-551-5960
Website: www.culturalcenter.gov.ph

(Sgd.) ARIEL S.R. YONZON
BAC Chairman

(PDI –Sept. 2 & 9, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER
Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
924-6601 to 25 Website: www.pcmc.gov.ph • Email: hiss@pcmc.gov.ph

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPENING FOR
PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER'S
PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY AND FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMS

Clinical and Anatomic Pathology
Adolescent Medicine
Ambulatory Pediatrics/ER-OPD
Child Neurology
Child Psychiatry
EEG-Epilepsy Fellowship
Neonatology
Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics
Pediatric Anesthesia
Pediatric Otolaryngology
Pediatric Radiology
Pediatric Hematology-Oncology (1 for January and July 2008)
Pediatric Intensive Care
Pediatric Infectious Diseases
Pediatric Nephrology
Pediatric Gastroenterology
Pediatric Pulmonology
Perinatology
Perinatal-Anesthesia
Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology
Pediatric Surgery
Pediatric Urology

PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS:
1. Application letter addressed to Julius A. Lecciones, MD, MHSA, MPM, Executive Director
2. Curriculum Vitaé with (2) 2x2 pictures
3. Transcript of Record
4. Diploma
5. Class Rank and Gen. Weighted Average
6. PRC Board Rating
7. Certificate of Commendation/Infraction

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:
1. Application letter addressed to Julius A. Lecciones, MD, MHSA, MPM, Executive Director
2. Curriculum Vitaé with (2) 2x2 pictures (white background)
3. Transcript of Record
4. Diploma
5. PRC Board Rating
6. Certificate of Completion of Pediatric Residency/General Surgery/ OB - Gyne/Radiology
7. Certificate of Passing PPS Diplomate Examination
8. Letter of recommendation from Chairman of the Department/ Dean of College and 2 other persons

Inquiries can be made at the Office of Professional Education and Training (OPET), thru Ms. Jennifer C. Cornejo at 9246601 local 308.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ACCOUNTANT / BOOKKEEPER
Proficient in computer
Mig-wells Construction Corp.
29 - 13th Avenue Cubao QC
Tel # 911-6385 c/o Mike

ADMIN ASST / BOOKKEPPER
Female 23-30 y/o college grad nr Cwealth QC 9313643

BS CHEMISTRY / BSIE
Camanava resident
mail your Resume!
Santos & Associates
65 Rosal Street Permaline Homes, Nangka, Marikina

DEP-ED Makati City
Teacher 1 Item No. 42147

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

DEPED - MARIKNA CITY
OSEC DECSB-MTCHR1-31486
TCH3-36243 TCH1-47961
47716-47657-47949-47763-47688
47817-31544 LET PBET PASSER

CAREGIVER • 302-6893

DEPED-MARIKINA CITY
OSEC-DECSB TCH1-47716
LET-PBET PASSER

If You Are 20-28 yrs. Male Acctg Or With Tech Skills Call Or Txt Asap 09153786219 For Appointment Start Immediately

2,000 Men Workers Wanted
(20-30 years old)
Reply to: evensenj@yahoo.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Sales Agents for construction industry M/F 21-30y/o college grad nr Cwealth QC 9313643

FEMALE ACCTG CLERK W/EXP 7768070 1550 MON-SAT

WANTED ASAP STRUCTURAL ENGR & DRAFTSMAN SUBMIT RESUME 5F PRUDENTIALIFE BLDG 843 PASAY ROAD MAKATI 8138420 8133568

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

WANTED ASAP ACCTG MAJOR EXP SUBMIT RESUME 5F PRUDENTIALIFE BLDG 843 PASAY ROAD MAKATI 8138420 8133568

PHARMACIST
321 Dasmarinas St. (Unit 901) Binondo, Manila • 3PM-5PM

Where you find the best.
JOB Market
Read it every Sunday in the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Dare to ask. Be an Inquirer. PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

In Loving Memory
On the Ninth Death Anniversary of

ANTONIO ZARAGOZA LIM

March 11, 1937 – September 3, 1998

Tony's widow, **Mariquita Bautista-Lim**; children **Ton, Louie, Missy** and **Jason Brodowski**, and **Roberto**; granddaughters **Skye** and **Riley**; sister **Eva Lim Pasagui** and her family; Mariquita's siblings **Mely, Dodie** and **Warren Willis, Laly, Ted** and **Nina** and **Manolo Quiray**, and their families request relatives, friends and the kind reader to attend Mass or say a prayer for the eternal repose of Tony's soul.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2007

San Isidro Parish Church, Pasay City	6:00 a.m.
St. Anthony's Cathedral, Masbate City	6:15 a.m.
San Beda Alabang Chapel, Muntinlupa City	7:30 a.m.
St. Timothy's Church, Chantilly, Virginia	9:00 a.m.
St. Jerome Emiliani Church, Alabang Town Center	12:15 p.m.
Sacred Heart Chapel, Rockwell Center, Makati City	5:30 p.m.
Resurrection Church, BF Parañaque, Parañaque City	6:30 p.m.
Transfiguration of Our Lord Church, Quezon City	7:00 p.m.

FR. MIGUEL J. CASALS, S.J.

was called home to the Lord on
Friday, 31 August 2007.

Wake : Oratory of St. Ignatius at Loyola House of Studies, Ateneo de Manila University Campus, Loyola Heights, Q.C.
Daily Mass at 8:00 P.M.

Funeral Mass : at 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday, 4 September in the Oratory of St. Ignatius, Loyola House of Studies.

Interment : Sacred Heart Novitiate Cemetery, Novaliches, Q.C., immediately after the Funeral Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF HIS SOUL.

Our Dearly Beloved

FRANCISCO M. CASTILLO

of Batangas City
(April 2, 1912 – August 29, 2007)

peacefully joined our Lord
on August 29, 2007 at the age of 95.

His loving wife **Margarita**;
children & in-laws: **Meling** & **Rosalie**, **Arsenia** & **Manny**, **Dick** & **Angie** (†) & **Emel**, **Eddie** & **Pency**, **Pina** & **Ronald**, **Bernard** & **Carole**, **Nene** & **Romy**;
grandchildren: **Ivan** & **Eloisa**, **Melissa** & **Dennis**, **Margie**, **Paulo**, **Aruel**, **Joyce** & **James**, **Abbie** & **Mark**, **VJ**, **Coco**, **Chiqui**, **JC**, **Moy-moy**, **Francis**, **RJ**, **Buboy**, **Maan**, **Raf**, **Miguel**, **Nicole**, **Raphael**, **Odette**, **Mike**, **Cristy**;
great-grandchildren: **Alyssa**, **Patrick**, **Marcus** and **Max**
request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state
at Basilica of Immaculate Concepcion,
MH del Pilar Street, Batangas City.

Interment will be on September 04, 2007 (Tuesday)
at Eternal Garden Memorial Park, Balagtas,
Batangas City after the 1:00 p.m. requiem Mass
at Basilica of Immaculate Concepcion, Batangas City.

Notify family and friends of a loved one who had just passed away.

We accept death notices, announcing details of the person's wake and interment. For a very affordable fee you can reach out to everyone who have been a part of the life of your dearly departed. For more information, you may contact Inquirer Classifieds at (02)897 8425.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

DR. GLORIOSO V. SATURAY

June 20, 1936 - August 20, 2007

express our heartfelt gratitude to those who condoled with us, offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, cards and messages of sympathy, gave donations, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites and memorial services, and who in countless ways helped and comforted us during our moments of bereavement.

Please continue to pray for his eternal repose in heaven.

"God be with you on your journey home.
We will miss you dearly."

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)
WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS
and bank-to-bank payments

LOYOLA CHAPELS
NOW OPEN TO SERVE YOU IN CUBAO
135 20th Avenue, Cubao, Q.C.
Tel.# 911-0372 / 911-0386
911-0392
COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICE

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

Head Office: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 899-4427; 897-8425 **(Telefax)**
Cubao: 912-9008 to 11 **(Aurora)**
Makati: 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370
Kalaw: 528-0213; 527-3342
Megamall: 635-0219; 635-0220

Message of Thanks

We, the loving husband, **Marcelino "Bogs" G. Aganon, Jr.**; children **Bogsie, Bea, Angelique,** and **Enzo**; mother **Beatriz P. Concepcion**; mother-in-law **Pacita G. Aganon**; brothers and sister, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends of the late

DIGNA MALLARY AGANON

who peacefully joined our Lord
on August 22, 2007 at the age of 52

wish to convey our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all those who grieved with us, offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers and messages of sympathy, kept vigil, joined the funeral rites, and who in various generous ways gave us comfort at the time of our great loss and sorrow.

Our most sincere gratitude.

CLASSIFIEDS

PROPERTY DEVELOPER SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH ALLIED BANK

Starland Properties, Inc. (SPI) signs a financing agreement with Allied Banking Corporation (ABC) for the construction of Villa Esteban, the third (3rd) building of the Subic Holiday Villas, a leisure and retirement facility located at the George Dewey Convention Center Complex, Kalayaan, Subic Bay Freeport Zone. Photo shown ABC President Lawyer Reynaldo A. Maclang (5th from left) and SPI Chairman and CEO Arch. Enrique O. Olonan (7th from left). Also present were ABC Officers (from far left) Aurora/Katipunan Branch Manager Ms. Therese Montecer, AVP-Retail Banking Mr. Rico Ong, Executive Vice President Mr. Peter Yap, Account Officer Mr. Carlos Ortiz (sixth from left), SAVP-Consumer Loans Mr. Filemon Delas Alas (second from right) and Account Officer Ms. Aidalyn Acoba (extreme right). SPI officers present were AVP-Finance Mr. Erick Andrew R. Olonan, VP Administration Arch. Henry Steve R. Olonan, VP-Finance Mrs. Cecilia R. Olonan and President Mr. Jose A. Pobocan (fourth, eight, ninth and tenth from left respectively).

CCP's ANI marks 20th anniversary

ANI, THE CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPpines' (CCP) literary yearbook, marks its 20th Anniversary with the launching of its Nature and Environment Issue (Ani 33) on Sept. 14, 6:30 pm, at the CCP Main Theater Ramp.

Ani is one of the longest surviving national literary journals/publications in the Philippines. *Ani* contains poems, fiction and essays in the different Philippine languages, with translations in Filipino and English. It also features translation into Filipino of award-winning contemporary works from the regions and includes a folio of reportage on CCP Literary Division's activities. Since its first issue in 1987, Ani has endeavored to fulfill its aim to: "first, 'let a hundred flowers bloom'; second, encourage writing among the regions, whether in English or in the regional languages; and third, establish and promote high standards of artistic excellence," as stated in the volume's foreword.

"Ani continues to serve as the outlet of literary works which would otherwise not find the light of print in national publications the literary section of which was fast disappearing. *Ani* also continues to enlarge the body of literary works, especially the regional, not only for teaching purposes, but also, and more importantly, for the development of a national literature," Hermie Beltran, Ani editor and director of the CCP Literary Arts division said.

According to Beltran's introduction to the new Ani 33, the volume explores anew nature and environment as metaphors of the human condition. "Every issue of Ani explores a theme not necessarily new, but always creatively. Writers are encouraged to look again at a theme or experience that may not be new. This always results in new insights...writers were able to produce new works dealing with humans' relationship to their environment, " Beltran added.

Ani 33 includes poems, short stories, essays, translations and a play by 77 contributors, namely, Jose Marte A. Abueg, Merlie M. Alunan, Alexander Barrios Agena Jr., Mark Angeles, Billy T. Antonio, G. Mae Aquino, Carlos A. Arejola, Bryan Mari Argos, Mesandel Virtusio Arguelles, Genevieve L. Asenjo, Abdon M. Balde Jr., Archie Barcelona, Gil S. Beltran, Herminio S. Beltran Jr., Ramon M. Bernardo, Kristoffer Berse, Hazel E. Caasi, Raymond Calbay, Nonon Villaluz Carandang, Ravelth B. Castro, Dexter Bomediano Cayanes, Jose Jason L. Chancoco, Kristian S. Cordero, Soledad B. Corong, Genaro R. Gojo Cruz, Mario L. Cuezon, Inez Ponce de Leon, Ayn Frances dela Cruz, Maureen Gaddi dela Cruz, Rodrigo V. dela Peña Jr., Dennis Espada, Filipino L. Estacio, Raul Funilas, Jeneen R. Garcia, Luis P. Gatmaitan, Fernando R. Gonzalez, Gelacio Y. Guillermo Jr., Sid Gomez Hildawa, Tala Isla-Contreras, Ferdinand Pisigan Jarin, Marne L. Kilates, Erwin C. Lareza, Nestor Lucena, Maricristh T. Magaling, Niño Manaog, Gutierrez Mangansakan II, Perry C. Mangilaya, Noahlyn Maranan, Pia Marquez-Matic, Glenn Sevilla Mas, Marcel L. Milliam, Francisco Arias Monteseña, Victor Dennis Tino Nierva, Emma S. Orozco, Voltaire Q. Oyzon, Chuckberry J. Pascual, Emman Pascual, Zosimo Quibilan Jr., Betty Regala, Raymund P. Reyes, Elyrah Loyola Salanga, Romel G. Samson, Soliman Agulto Santos, Fely M. Senido, Rakki E. Sison-Buban, Beverly Siy, Emeniano Acain Somoza Jr., Dolores R. Taylan, John Iremil E. Teodoro, Kathline Tolosa, Christian Tordecillas, Enrico C. Torralba, Ma. Georgina J. Verdolaga, Santiago B. Villafania, Camilo M. Villanueva Jr. and Rosemarie Medina Ydia. Book design and layout are by Rommel Manto, using a photograph of Junyee's installation, "Angud", for the cover, and a print, "Inang Kalikasan" by Neil Doloricon.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **MR. BENJAMIN R. RUEDA,** whose photograph is shown below, is no longer connected with **The Insular Life Assurance Company, Ltd.,** as of June 7, 2007. All transactions he made or will make for and on behalf of the Company on or after the said date are not authorized and are not binding on the Company.

BENJAMIN R. RUEDA
A-3 Ferdinand 11 St.,
Kingsville Subdivision,
Antipolo, Rizal, 1906

(PDI--Sept. 2, 2007)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

MARIA EDNA MACAJELOS ESPACIO & LORNA BUENAVENTURA SY

This to inform the public that **MARIA EDNA MACAJELOS ESPACIO & LORNA BUENAVENTURA SY,** whose picture appears above, are no longer connected with **CANYON WOODS RESIDENTIAL RESORT,** including its all affiliates project effective July 30, 2007 & August 24, 2007 respectively. Please be informed that our company will not honor any transaction made by them on or behalf after the said dates.

(PDI – Aug. 31 & Sept. 2, 2007)

MODUTECH

URGENTLY NEEDED
AUTOCAD OPERATOR

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Bachelor of Science Major in Architecture
- Knowledgeable in rendering of Autodesk Viz, Adobe Photoshop, AutoCAD
- With pleasing personality
- Must be 21 to 35 years old, male

Our company located at
Unit 822, 8th Flr., Herrera Tower, Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City
(at the back of PBCOM Tower)
Contact No.: 843-1776 / 840-1698
E-mail: mrmodutech2003@yahoo.com

JOB Market
Find a career in here.

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

Head Office:
897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 899-4427; 897-8425 **(Telefax)**

Cubao:
912-9008 to 11 **(Aurora)**

Makati:
892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370

Kalaw:
528-0213; 527-3342

Megamall:
635-0219; 635-0220

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation

A Global Corporation with a Global Mindset and a Filipino Heart

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

ITB NO.: 06-06-2007

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Name of Project : Supply & Delivery of 3 million decks of Playing Cards
Approved Budget : Four Million Two Hundred Thousand US Dollars (US$.4,200,000.00)
Source of Fund : Internally Funded

Only suppliers duly registered with PAGCOR shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/ Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Pre-Bid Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	*Schedule*
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	August 30, 2007 – October 04, 2007
2. Pre-Bid Conference	September 6, 2007 (2:30 pm)
3. Submission & Opening of Bids (Envelopes 1 & 2)	October 05, 2007 (2:30 pm)
4. Opening of Bids (Envelope 3)	October 30, 2007 (2:30 pm onwards)

Complete details of the project are indicated in the **bid documents** which will be available to prospective bidders at the BAC Secretariat Unit, Room 205 2nd Floor PAGCOR House 1330 Roxas Boulevard, Ermita, Manila upon payment of a non-refundable bidding fee of ***Two Thousand One Hundred US Dollars (US$ 2,100.00) or Ninety Seven Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Seven Pesos (Php 97,587.00) (US$1 = Php 46.47).*** In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretariat.

PAGCOR assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

PAGCOR reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement and Property Department, PAGCOR House, Ermita, Manila, Tel No. 524-3911 or 521-1542 locals 223 or 571.

(Sgd.) **RENE C. FIGUEROA**
Chairperson, BAC 1

(PDI – Sept. 2, 2007))

BAGUIO WATER DISTRICT

"On Firm Grounds, Moving Forward"
No. 03 Purok BWD, Barangay Marcoville, 2600 Baguio City, Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Baguio Water District, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to be for the hereunder contracts:

	CONTRACT A	CONTRACT B
Name of Contract	Installation of 6"Ø x 2.2 km pipeline (rising main) from Tacay-Pinsao well to Buyog Pumping Station	Installation of 8"Ø x 1.96 km pipeline (rising main) from Tacay-Pinsao well to Saggalang Tank
Location	Tacay Road, Baguio City	Tacay Road, Baguio City
Brief Description	The project involves pipelaying works along existing roads to install the proposed 6" x 2.2 km of HDPE pipeline	The project involves pipelaying works along existing roads to install the proposed 8" x 1.96 km of HDPE pipeline
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Php 3,793,480.23	Php 7,485,329.38
Contract Duration	100 calendar days	98 calendar days

Note: Bids for the above contracts shall be submitted separately. The above contracts will be awarded individually.

Bidders must have the following minimum equipment requirements:
1. One (1) unit Hydraulic Breaker
2. One (1) unit Backhoe
3. One (1) unit Elf Truck
4. With official receipt and certificate of registration for the equipment if owned by the contractor or contract of lease if rented, as applicable.

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB License applicable to the contract, have satisfactorily completed a similar contract with the Baguio Water District with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and minimum equipment as listed above and in the Eligibility Form. The BAC will use a non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as in the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC will conduct post-qualification on the lowest calculated bid.

All particulars relative to the Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bid Conference/s, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The schedule of BAC activities is as follows:

BAC Activities	Schedule
1. Submission of Letter of Intent (LOI) including applications for Eligibility by interested bidders and simultaneous issuance of Eligibility Forms to interested bidders	September 10-13, 2007
2. Submission of Eligibility documents	September 24, 2007
3. Issuance of Results of Eligibility check	Oct. 1, 2007

The BAC will issue Eligibility Forms to interested bidder's upon the submission of a Letter of Intent to the BAC Secretariat at the Baguio Water District, 003 Brgy. Marcoville, Baguio City upon payment of a non refundable amount of Two Thousand Pesos (Php2,000.00) to the Baguio Water District Cashier. Interested bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to the BAC at the said address and on the due date as specified above.

Bid documents per project will be available only to eligible bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Three Thousand pesos (Php3,000.00) to the BWD Cashier.

The Baguio Water District assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

Tel. Nos.: Administrawe: 444-7246; Finance: 442-4858; Commercial: 442-6539; Production/Engineering/Construction & Maintenance: 442-4228; Complaints: 442-3218, 442-4929; Audit: 444-5364; GM's Office: 442-3456; Fax: 442-4858; 442-3456; 444-7245.

(Sgd.) **Engr. SALVADOR M. ROYECA**
BAC-Projects Chairman

(PDI – Sept. 2 & 9, 2007)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date: September 2, 2007
ADB Loan No.: 1772-PHI
Contract No.: SP-08-015-01

1. The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of the **INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RURAL PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT SECTOR (InfRES) PROJECT** and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the **Contract for the Construction and Rehabilitation of 14.465 kms. Motiong Farm to Market Road.** Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries of the Asian Development Bank that:
   (a) are registered with the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board to undertake infrastructure projects as a Medium A contractor or better, and
   (b) have undertaken within the past 5 years, as the contractor, management contractor or subcontractor, three (3) road construction work projects valued at least Pesos 15,000,000.00 each.
2. The Municipality of Motiong, Samar invites sealed bids from bidders with the above qualifications for the construction and completion of the Works, which includes two (2) Road Sections (4.355 kms. New Minarog - Inalad and 10.11 kms. Jct. Maypange - Pusongan) totaling 14.465 kms.; 1 set 3-barrel and 6 sets 1-barrel of Reinforced Concrete Box Culverts (RCBC); and 47 single-line and 3 double-line of Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culverts (RCPC). The maximum contract period for the works is 365 calendar days.
3. Bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect and acquire the bidding documents, at the office of the Employer, at

ACILA G. BACO
Office of the BAC Chairman
Municipality of Motiong, Province of Samar

4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders on submission of a written application to the above office, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Seven Thousand Pesos (Php 7,000.00). Issuance of bid documents will be on September 16, 2007 to October 15, 2007.
5. All Bids must be accompanied by a Security of equivalent to two (2) percent of the Bid Amount or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency, and must be delivered to the address indicated above on or before 2:00 P.M. on October 30, 2007. Bids will be opened at 2:00 P.M. on the aforementioned date, in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend. A pre-bid conference will be on October 18, 2007 at 2:00 P.M., Session Hall, Municipal Building, Motiong, Samar.
6. The LGU reserves the right to accept or reject any bids and to cancel the bidding process at any time prior to award of the contractor, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidders of the reasons for Employer's action.

ACILA G. BACO
BAC Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - Sept. 2, 2007)

RIVIERA GOLF CLUB, INC.
BY-PASS ROAD, SILANG, CAVITE

NOTICE OF SALE OF DELINQUENT RGCI SHARES AT AUCTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE RIVIERA GOLF CLUB, INC. (RGCI) WILL SELL THE FOLLOWING DELINQUENT SHARES AT A PUBLIC AUCTION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE BY-LAWS, FOR NON-PAYMENT OF THE MONTHLY DUES AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS:

A-0853	A-1225	A-1668	A-0911	A-0858	A-0150	A-0706	A-1814
A-0595	A-0164	A-0613	A-1616	A-0673	A-1267	A-0660	A-1278
A-0731	A-1322	A-0826	A-0829	A-0021	A-0753	A-0496	A-1312
A-0416	A-1667	A-1336	A-0533	A-0257	A-1822	A-0897	A-1664
A-0039	A-0562	A-0921	A-0458	A-0013	A-1466	A-1467	A-0265
A-1561	A-0538	A-0511	A-1224	A-1081	A-0840	A-0938	A-0141
A-1599	A-0456	B-0300	B-0131	B-0157	B-1889	B-0449	B-0177
B-0338	B-0193	C-0285	C-0126	C-0204	C-0198	C-0046	C-0012
C-0284	C-0028	C-0310	C-0161	C-0254			

THE AUCTION DATE IS SET ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2007 AT 10:00 A.M., AT THE TEE PAVILION, RIVIERA GOLF CLUB, INC., SILANG, CAVITE. ALL INTERESTED PARTIES MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE BIDIDNG.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ROLANDO G. BORJA**
CORPORATE SECRETARY

(PDI - Sept. 2, 2007)

People, Events & Products

DMCI Homes, BDO-EPCIB seal partnership

DMCI HOMES, THE COUNTRY'S ONLY triple A builder/developer recently entered into a partnership with Equitable PCI Bank (now BDO-EPCIB Inc), one of the country's largest banks, for the development of Riverfront Residences, a charming mid-rise residential enclave in the heart of Pasig City.

DMCI Homes brings to the table its sterling reputation of being a leading innovator in today's burgeoning residential development scene, in addition to its illustrious history of building some of the most recognized landmarks in the country. It is the nation's only builder/developer that provides young families of modest means high-quality and affordable homes in centrally located and fully-serviced communities.

On the other hand, EPCIB, especially now with its merger with Banco de Oro, provides the financial muscle to give the buyers various options for exciting home financing schemes at among the lowest rates in the market and up to 25 years installment payment terms.

With this, things can only get better for future residents and prospective buyers of Riverfront Residences.

Set on 3.2 hectares of prime land along Dr. Sixto Antonio Ave. and bordered by the tranquil Marikina River, Riverfront Residences boasts of nine elegantly designed residential buildings interspersed with resort-like amenities, manicured landscapes, and sprawling open spaces.

Construction is currently on going and sales, as expected, are brisk. Buyers are easily regaled by the quiet allure that a Riverfront lifestyle promises. One of the property's highlights is a majestic 300-meter Sunset View Park that curves around Marikina River and is dotted with an assortment of family-friendly activity areas. Moreover, this serene enclave is within convenient distance of major commercial and entertainment hubs, leading education and medical institutions, and the premier commercial and business districts of Ortigas, Taguig and Makati.

Turnover of units of the first two buildings are slated for the end of 2007. But in what is becoming a pleasant DMCI Homes habit, the development's completion may very well be way ahead of its target date, affording its buyers the chance to move in and enjoy the Riverfront experience much earlier.

Romeo Pulido, vice president for property planning and joint ventures of Equitable-PCIBank expresses admiration for their partners for this. He explains, "Outside looking in, we've always held DMCI in high regard. But now working closely together, we are all the more impressed. The speed of construction, the quality, the vision – this is more than what we expected."

Both companies are brimming with confidence and excitement at the way things are unraveling. DMCI Homes head of engineering Gerry Ancheta succinctly sums up the shared emotional high by declaring, "We are very happy with this initial venture and eagerly look forward to more collaborations in the future."

Riverfront Residences is the only mid-rise community that offers manicured paseo-gardens by the riverside for the underserved young families with modest income aspiring for daily leisurely (afternoon) strolls with the family closest to the northern tip of the central business district in a time of increasing daily stress. A big part of the property's appeal lies in the 300-meter lush, Sunset View Park, that curves around Marikina River. Families can expect for an astounding sunset view in the afternoon while they saunter and relax at the activity areas of the linear promenade.

8TH PDI NEWSBOYS MEDICAL MISSION

The Inquirer with its partners Unilab and volunteer doctors and nurses had its 8th leg of its Newsboy Medical Mission. The mission was able to serve 160 newsboys and their families covering the coastal mall. Next stop is in Cubao area, where 120 newsboys will be expected.

CA HOLDS GROUND SCHOOL PROGRAM GRADUATION

Clark Aviation (CA), the country's newest and fastest rising aviation academy, reached its first major milestone with the graduation from the five-month Ground School Program of its first set of air cadets at the school campus at the Clark Special Economic Zone last August 10. Landing at the top her class of international students was Ceffie Tuadles (right) after she received her certificate of completion from (from left) ground instructor Gerald Naidas and chief ground instructor Matt Wood. CA opened only early this year but has offered a wealth of opportunities for aspiring and practicing commercial pilots with its $10.7-million Airbus 320 flight simulator which is the first of its kind in the Philippines, offering low cost but quality training for all air cadets.

Successful supply management conference in Clark

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS AND OVER A HUNDRED DELEgates shared successful stories, tools and practical solutions during the conference on "Best Practices in Supply Management" held in Holiday Inn, Mimosa Leisure Estate, Clark Freeport Zone last Aug. 15. This first ever supply management conference made possible by Philippine Institute for Supply Management (PISM) in partnership with Clark Polytechnic have included top and foreign consultants and country's supply management executives. Representatives from various companies like Alkey International Inc, Agile Supply Chain Experts, Inc, Bristol Myers Squibb, Clark Water Corporation, DHL, Nanox Phils, Perkinelmer Optoelectronics, Republic Chemical Industries, Red Dragon Farm, Sara Lee Philippines, Smart Shirt (Philippines) Inc, joined this particular event. The success of this initial attempt by PISM to reach out supply management practitioners in provincial areas boosted PISM's vision of replicating this in its provincial chapters in Cebu, Davao and Negros Occidental. For more information about PISM, contact the Secretariat at 634-6632; 638-4024; 634-5942; e-mail at secretariat@pism.org or visit www.pism.org.

JOB Market

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007
Philippine Copyright 1995

For jobseekers, log on to:
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB*Market* is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities

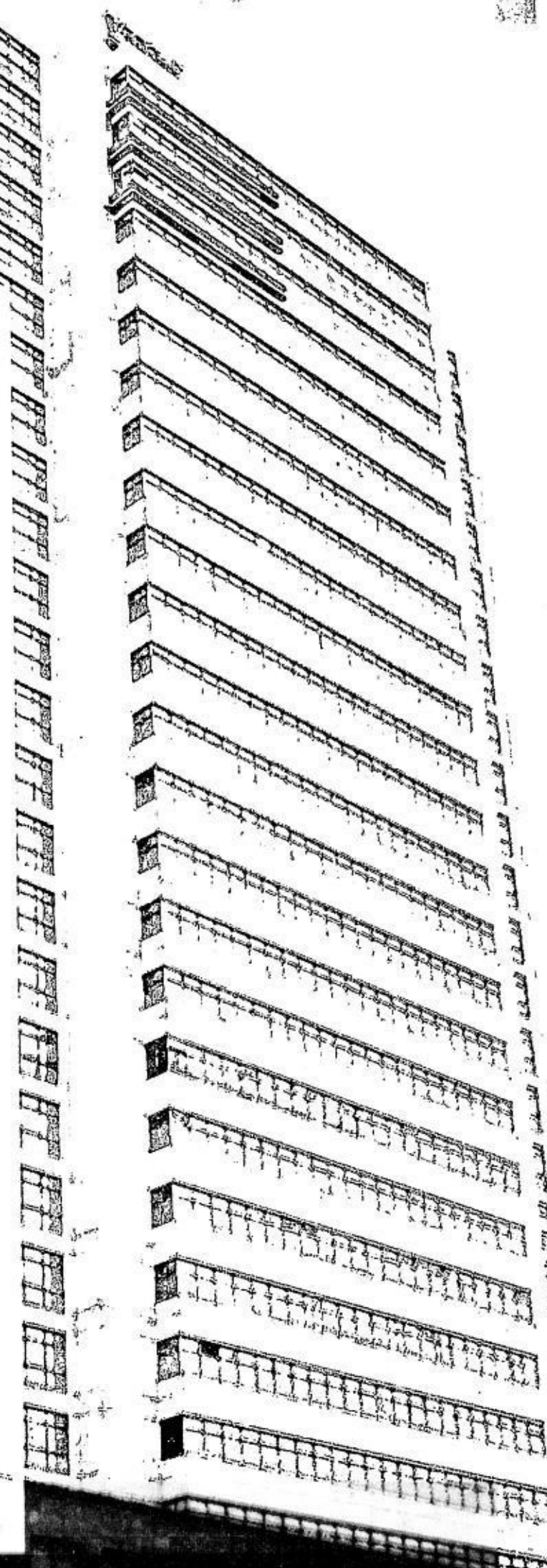
RATES (R-VAT exclusive)
P245 per column centimeter every Sunday
DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon

Text us your feedback: Inquirer jm name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Find A Career In Here.

IBM Business Services* recruitment hub

IS NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS!



OUR COMPANY

IBM Business Services, Inc. (IBS) is the leading Business Transformation Outsourcing (BTO) Delivery Center in the Asia-Pacific region. We offer Human Resources (HR) and Finance and Accounting (F&A) services for companies such as Procter & Gamble, Kodak, and Lenovo. Our diverse workforce of 1,800+ employees provide both English and multi-lingual support for clients located in North America, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and Africa.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Fresh Graduates for various Human Resources related positions [PDI-FGHR]
- Graduates of Psychology, Behavioral Science, and HR Management (Batch 2006 and 2007 only)

Fresh Graduates for various Finance & Accounting related positions [PDI-FGF&A]
- Graduates of Accountancy, Finance, and Business Courses (Batch 2006 and 2007 only)

Fresh Graduates for various IT related positions [PDI-FGIT]
- Graduates of IT and Engineering related courses (Batch 2006 and 2007 only)

Tax Analysts [PDI-TA]
- Key role in supporting the tax filling remitting, taxes, filing tax returns, responding to government inquiries, and resolving all issues.

Financial Analysts [PDI-FA]
- Experience in one or more of the following Fixed Asset Accounting, Fixed Asset WIP, Reconciliation Accounting, SAP System Development, Property Control, Policy and Controls, and System Operations

Compensation Specialists [PDI-CS]
- At least 2 years experience in salary administration including merit increase, promotion and salary adjustments
- Keen with details
- Good Communication skills

Payroll Specialists [PDI-PS]
- Preferably with 1 year experience in payroll services

Customer Service Representatvies [PDI-CSR]
- Have a minimum of 1 year experience gained from the contact center industry
- Posses excellent communication skills

Workforce Lead
- Knowledgeable in using CMS Avaya and other scheduling tools as Blue Pumpkin, IEX, etc.
- Ability to handle multiple tasks
- Highly knowledgeable in excel

Recruitment Consultants [PDI-RC]
- Will be responsible for delivering recruitment consultancy services to accounts in the US
- Experience in head hunting or recruitment consultancy is an advantage
- Applicants must be willing to work on night shift if required

Multilingual Specialist [PDI-MS]
- Proficient in any of the following languages: JAPANESE, KOREAN, FRENCH, GERMAN, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia, Thai, Mandarin and Cantonese.

Operations Managers / Directors
- Preferably with operations call center experience with six sigma background.
- Must be experienced in handling service delivery in a fast-paced, hi-volume environment and working with US clients
- With client facing experience handling escalations, progress reporting

HOW TO APPLY:

FRESH GRADUATES and applicants who have less than 18 months work experience are required to take our pre-employment examination.

Fast track your application by walking-in at our Recruitment Center from Monday to Friday, 10am - 4pm.

Our RECRUITMENT CENTER is located at the
Recruitment Hub G/F IBM Plaza
Eastwood Ave., Libis, Quezon City

You can also apply online. EMAIL your resumes to:
ibmhire@ph.ibm.com
(Please indicate the job code in the subject line)

For inquiries, you may CONTACT any of these numbers:
Trunkline 995-6987 Local 5095 and 5093

Visit our booth at the
GLORIETTA JOB FAIR
on September 3 - 5

IBM BUSINESS SERVICES, INC.

what makes us special?

expansion that matters*

world's largest global technology company
multi-billion dollar BPO industry
boundless growth opportunity

IBM Daksh Edsa
3/F Edsa Central
Pavilion Building
Edsa corner Shaw
Mandaluyong City

IBM Daksh, a wholly owned company of global technology giant IBM, is spreading its wings in Metro Manila!

For a stable career in the company, apply now for Customer Care Specialist and Technical Specialist positions in Edsa Central, Makati and our soon-to-open site in Commonwealth.

Be part of the third most popular brand in the world as it gears up for high speed growth with the progressive hiring for new and expanding Fortune 500 accounts.

NEW! NOW HIRING!

IBM Daksh Commonwealth
41 Commonwealth Avenue
Quezon City

Work for a company unlike any other.
Because you are NOT like everybody else.
Be an IBMer.

Be a Pioneer for our New UK-Based Account!

Be a Customer Care or Technical Specialist for our Fortune 500 Client Companies

Customer Care and Technical Specialists
General Qualifications (Required for all Accounts)
- Excellent oral and written English communication skills
- Strong customer service and problem solving skills
- Proficient in computer and internet applications
- Completed at least 3 years of college education in any course, or finished a 2-year diploma or certificate course
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Experience in up-selling or cross-selling is preferred
- Willing to work in a fast-paced, dynamic and schedule-shifting environment
- Willing to be assigned in Mandaluyong, Makati or Quezon City

Technical Support Specialists
Non-Voice and Chat Support Specialists

Travel Customer Care Specialists
- Two-year college undergraduates with 12 months customer service experience are welcome to apply
- College graduates without prior work experience are also welcome to apply
- Work experience in the BPO, Customer Service or Travel Industry is an advantage
- Must be willing to be assigned in Quezon City or Mandaluyong City

Support and Leadership Positions
Voice and Accent Trainers • ESL Trainer • Team Leaders • Assistant Manager, Voice Network • Assistant Manager, Data Network • Voice and Data Network Assistant Managers • Information Technology Managers - Assistant Manager, Six Sigma • Assistant Manager, Quality

You may also visit www.ibm.com/services/daksh to check out our openings for experienced professionals.

Apply Now!

For CCS Applicants, visit our Recruitment Centers. One day processing is guaranteed.
Mandaluyong – 3/F Edsa Central Pavilion, Edsa corner Shaw Blvd. (MRT-Shaw Station)
Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm | Saturday 9am to 1pm
Quezon City – 41 Commonwealth Avenue (Formerly Nissan Showroom)
Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm

NOW HIRING FOR OUR COMMONWEALTH SITE!

Or E-mail your resume to: hotcareers@ph.daksh.com
Please indicate "Position Title - Manila Bulletin" on the subject line.

Applicants with their SSS and TIN IDs will be prioritized.
If qualified for employment: TOR/TCG and Certificate of Graduation will be required.

Talent for Innovation
IBM Daksh Business Process Services Philippines Inc.

IBM

LOOK BEYOND WHAT YOU SEE.

Our company is the leader in the **health and wellness** industry for over 25 years. Embrace and tackle big challenges as we place our trust in you to become one of our top employees. We hire only **top-of-the-line** candidates and offer a fun and motivating career, constantly implementing programs to promote the welfare and growth of our team members.

SALES CONSULTANTS
- Female, 24-35 years old
- With at least 2 years extensive sales/marketing background from a service-oriented, real estate pharmaceutical, insurance, or automobile company
- Driven and ambitious to take on the challenge of delivering & meeting the sales expectations of the company
- Projects a professional appearance and has a pleasing personality
- A college graduate from a reputable school
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Hungry to earn huge amount of money w/o the hassle of going on field work
- Open positions in **Alabang, Makati, Binondo, Ortigas, Pampanga,** and **Cebu branches**

NURSES/THERAPISTS
- Female, 21-28 years old
- With a bachelor's degree in Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy & Nursing
- With good communication skills and PR
- With or without work experience
- Open for positions in **Alabang, Makati, Binondo, Quezon City, Ortigas** and **Pampanga branches**

PART-TIME MEDICAL DOCTORS (Male)/ DERMATOLOGISTS (Female)
- 27-35 years old, Licensed/Qualified Dermatologists
- **For Medical Doctors:** Trained and experienced in Family or Internal Medicine, those in other fields are also welcome to apply
- Good built, with good skin condition and pleasing personality
- With good interpersonal and communication skills
- Work schedule can be arranged

RECEPTIONISTS/ASSISTANT RECEPTIONISTS
- Female, 21-28 years old
- A college graduate from a reputable school
- With good communication skills, smart and personable
- Previous experience as a telemarketer and a front liner in the hotel industry is a plus factor
- Enthusiastic with good people skills or PR
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

Interested candidates may send their resume with 2x2 picture to:
The Human Resource Dept. 6/F Global Enterprise Bldg. 138 H.V. Dela Costa St. Salcedo Village, Makati City or e-mail us at: hrdrecruit@laser.com.ph

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
ACCOUNTING CLERK/ OFFICE CLERK
- Female, Single, 5'3" in height, 22-28 y/o
- BS Accountancy / Business Course graduate
- Preferably w/ related experience, Computer Literate
- Proficient in oral and written communication

Apply in person at:
JACKMAN EMPORIUM INC.
Rizal Avenue Ext., Monumento, Kalookan City
(Beside EVER GOTESCO GRAND CENTRAL)
(Monday - Friday, 10:00 - 5:00 p.m.)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
ACCOUNTING CLERK
- Female, Single, 5'2" in height, not more than 26 y/o
- Accounting graduate
- With or w/o experience, Computer Literate
- Proficient in oral and written communication
- Preferably nearby residents of Pasig City

Apply in person at:
FASHION CIRCLE DEPT. STORE
#28-A Mabini St., Kapasigan, Pasig City
(Monday - Saturday, 10:00 - 5:00 p.m.)
Bring pre-employment requirements

Photo taken at New York's Times Square on eTelecare's first day of trading. eTelecare is the first Philippine incorporated outsourcer to trade on the NASDAQ stock exchange.

telecare™
GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL SITES

Technical Support Representatives
Financial Customer Service Associates
Inbound/Outbound Sales Representatives
Inbound Travel Sales Associate
Customer Service Associates
Multilingual Customer Service Associates
Spanish/Korean/Cantonese/Fookien
Send applications to multilingual.recruiting@etelecare.com

Microsoft Senior Application Developer*
Microsoft Application Developers*
IT Project Leaders*
NICE Systems Administrator*
IT Helpdesk Associates*
*Joining bonus for successful candidates who submit applications by September 7

Microsoft Database Administrators
Network Engineer
Avaya Telecommunications Engineers
Market Research Specialist
Recruitment Marketing Specialist
Sourcing Specialist (Manila/Davao)
Technical Recruiter
Recruiting Specialist (Manila/Davao)
Recruiting Associates (Davao)
Training Specialists
Senior Sales Training Specialist
Language Trainers
Training Supervisor
OD Senior Training Officer
Workforce Management Specialists (Forecasting and Scheduling)
Productivity Assurance Coordinators
Resource Specialists
Capacity Planning Specialist
Team Leaders
Quality Assurance Associates
Compensation and Benefits Supervisor
Human Resource Officer
Human Resource Specialists
Frontdesk Associate

Recruitment Hotlines
580-6530 (Manila)
(032) 411-9030 (Cebu)
www.etelecarecareers.com

Baguio hires get
P20,000++ Relocation Package
Catch us in Baguio on
Sept. 10-11, 8-5pm @ Citylight Hotel

manila.recruiting@etelecare.com - alabang.recruiting@etelecare.com - ceburecruiting@etelecare.com

LIBIS
2/F CyberOne Bldg.
Eastwood, Libis

SHAW
Upper G/F Annex@
Shaw Blvd. cor. EDSA

MAKATI
12/F PBCom Tower
Ayala Ave., Makati.

ALABANG
G/F Plaz@ A Bldg.
Northgate Cyberzone
Filinvest Corporate City

CEBU
G/F i2 Bldg.
Asiatown IT Park
Lahug, Cebu City

Text ETEL (space) Name, Landline Number & desired position
Send to: 2327(Globe Subscribers) 0917-8902327 (All Non-Globe Subscribers)

Let's Study in Japan

Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in the Republic of the Philippines 2008-2009

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has started the implementation of the Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) through the assistance of the Government of Japan for Japanese Fiscal Year 2002.

The objective of the JDS Project is to provide Philippine nationals with opportunities for obtaining master's degree at the Japanese universities in order to support human resource development policy of the Government of the Philippines, and eventually to extend and strengthen the bilateral relationship between the Philippines and Japan.

The JDS Project targets young government employee who are expected to play leadership roles in the Philippines.

The JDS Project is exclusively for the Philippine Public Sector.

Degree to be obtained and Field of Study
1. Degree: Master's Degree (2-2.5 years courses)
2. Field of Study (number of scholars to be accepted)
   -Public Administration (8 persons)
   -Economics (8 persons)
   -Information and Communication Technology (3 persons)
   -Industrial Development (2 persons)
   -Business Administration (4 persons)
3. Language of Instruction: predominantly English

Common Agenda for Each Field of Study:
For JDS project in the Philippines, the "Common Agenda" has been settled for each field as follows:

Public Administration
- Building Institutional Capacity for Better Governance
- Advancing Decentralization and Regional Development

Economics
- Ensuring Balanced and Stable Fiscal Management
- Promotion of Sound Market and Industries

Information and Communication Technology
- ICT Policy to Create Wider and Advanced Usage

Industrial Development
- Industrial Development Policy for Global Competitiveness

Business Administration
- Providing Sound and Attractive Business Environment

Allowances for JDS applicants and fellows:
1) Fee for IELTS and limited medical examination
2) Limited transportation and accommodation allowances for selection stages and .pre-departure orientation

Qualification Requirements:
1) A Filipino Citizen;
2) Below 40 years old as of April 1, 2008; (Those who were born on/after April 2nd 1968)
3) Civilian Government employee, permanent status, and has 2 years of work experience in the public sector at the time of application;
4) Has a performance rating of at least "very satisfactory" at the time of application
5) Bachelor's degree relevant to the target fields except for ICT field, which applicants should have bachelor's degree in ICT or equivalent is required ; and
6) Has not been awarded foreign scholarship for Master's degree;

Selection Procedures
-First Selection:
Documentation Screening by Accepting Universities
-Second Selection:
English Examination(IELTS), Math Test
-Third Selection
Technical Interview by professors of the accepting universities
-Fourth Selection
Comprehensive Interview by O/C members

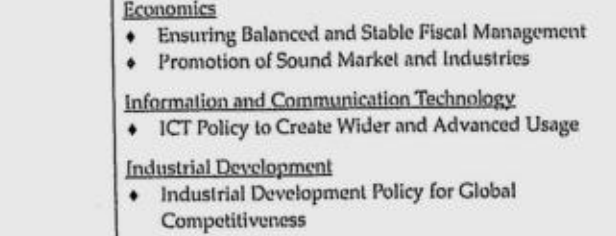
Application
-Application Documents are distributed at
-JICE JDS Project Office, or
-Can be downloaded at http://sv2.jice.org/jds/
(website will be available from 13th of August)

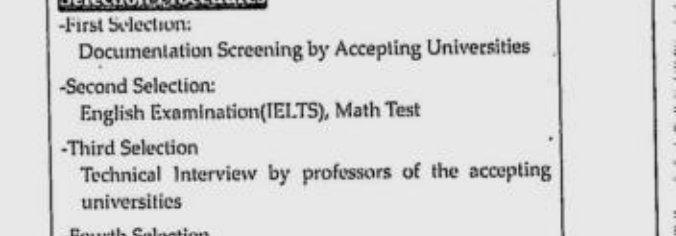
Deadline for Application
Not later than 16:30hrs on October 19, 2007
Late submission and incomplete application documents shall not be accepted.

Where to submit
Application forms and required documents must be submitted either personally, by mail, or courier to JICE JDS Project Office.

For further information, inquire from:
JICE JDS Project Office in the Philippines
(Mon to Fri, 09:00 to 12:00, 13:30 to 16:30)
Unit 2-F1, Island Plaza Salcedo, L.P. Leviste Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City, Philippines
*TEL: 02-7533261
*Official Web Site: http://sv2.jice.org/jds/

Executing Agency
National Economic and Development Authority (Public Investment Staff)





There *is* a difference.

Come on over to TeleTech!

THEM Work.

UpGRADe MBA
TeleTech Lifes
Optimum Rew
Program, TeleTe
Birthd Bashe
Ou , Ring
Party, Super
Dr ns, Tel
Videoke Nights, O
Qu s, Sho
for Oth
lunteers,
itiatives,

ut an
assport Program,

ersity, Sportsfest,
ly Day, Company
Holiday
Model Themed

a, Game Rooms,
rm Onsite Gym,

ub
dership Excellence
and Achievement Program, Supervisor Development Program

TeleTech.

APPLY NOW!
(Pasay City Delivery Center)

Technical Support Associates
- College/Associate graduates or finished at least 2 years of college
- With excellent oral and written communication skills in English
- Must have strong comprehension and listening skills

Customer Service Associates
- College/Associate graduates or finished at least 2 years of college
- With excellent oral and written communication skills in English
- Must have strong comprehension and listening skills
- Preferably with healthcare /medical experience or
- Preferably with collections/sales/hotel reservations experience or
- Human Resources/back office experience

Leadership and Business Support Openings
- Accent and Conversational English (ACE) Trainers
- Accent and Conversational English (ACE) Coaches
- Human Resources Coordinator
- Human Resources Assistant (Data Management)
- Human Resources Senior Generalist
- Human Resources Generalist
- Recruitment Assistant (Project-based)

For career opportunities and to apply online, visit

www.HirePoint™.com

The exclusive career gateway of TeleTech

Walk-in applicants are welcome:

Pasay City Office
Building F, SM Corporate Offices,
SM Central Business Park, Pasay City, Metro Manila
(Visit us Mondays-Fridays, 8am-5pm)

FREE TRAINING
on Improving English skills
for NEAR-HIRES

TeleTech®

The Fastest Growing BPO Company

• Pasay • Fort Bonifacio • Novaliches • Cainta • Lipa • Dumaguete • Bacolod • Cebu • Bacoor • Iloilo •

ETON

Eton Properties Philippines, Inc.

Building with Pride

EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT THE HOTTEST REAL ESTATE COMPANY TODAY

"Since (Lucio) Tan is popularly known as the Philippine beer, tobacco and airline magnate, many were surprised with his sudden entry into the property sector. But unknown to many, the Chinese-Filipino tycoon has been in the real estate business in Guam, Hongkong and China as early as the mid-1980s. In fact, Eton Properties Philippines, Inc. is the name sake of Eton Properties Ltd., Tan's Hongkong- and China-based property firm."

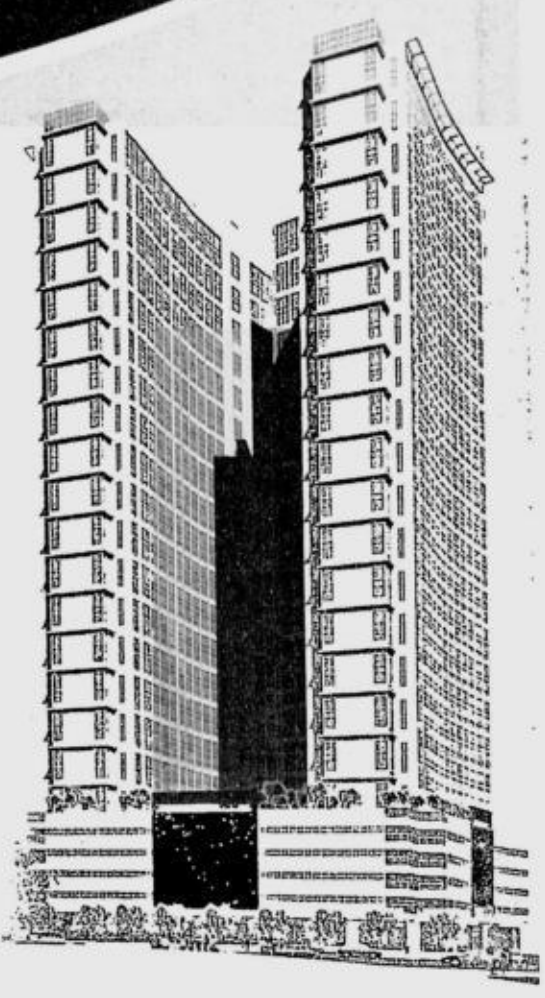
- Roy G. Acosta, Philippine Graphic

We are looking for licensed brokers, marketing groups and broker companies to partner with us in the marketing of our various projects. We have allocated an initial P10 Billion for our projects in the next few years.

Join us for a briefing & a recruitment seminar on our new project in Ortigas.

ETON EMERALD LOFTS

Tuesday, 11 September 2007, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
at Racks El Pueblo, Ortigas Center



Please call:
ERWIN FLORES
750-6331 or 750-5912/13 loc. 104
Email: brokersnetwork@eton.com.ph

ETON PROPERTIES PHILIPPINES, INC.
A member of the Lucio Tan Group of Companies
12/F Allied Bank Center, 6754 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

www.eton.com.ph

WE ARE HIRING

E-Konek Pilipinas, Inc., an IT company expanding its operations for e-governance projects and software development, invites applicants for the following positions:

3 JAVA PROGRAMMERS, 2 SENIOR JAVA DEVELOPERS

- College degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or other related courses. (New graduates are encouraged to apply)
- Knowledgeable in Java language, Java scripts and development of Java Server Pages.
- Six (6) months experience in writing Java programs, including school projects (for Senior Java Developer at least 2 years)
- Familiarity with the Linux / Unix operating systems

2 APPLICATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALISTS

- College degree; Computer Science, Information Technology or other related courses will be a plus.
- Two (2) years combined information technology and business experience. IT experience should be as programmer, system or database administrator or trainor for at least six months.
- Certificated training or on-the-job training on programming, systems analysis and design, database design, system or database administration,
- Outstanding skills in the use of office automation tools, especially flowcharting or diagramming, spreadsheets and word processing software
- Good oral communication skills. Capable of clear and precise written English

E-Konek Pilipinas is one of the 14 companies under the Lina Group. The group has more than 2,000 employees nationwide. It is involved in a wide range of businesses, primarily in distribution, warehouse management, freight forwarding, customs brokerage, outsourced customer contact centers, waste management. The Lina Group takes its corporate citizenship one step further by partnering with government in improving the business environment for the country's trade industry. It builds applications to enable government services to be available to both companies and individuals alike.

E-Konek PILIPINAS

One Window to Government

Visit our Website: www.ekonek.com

If you are interested in being part of E-Konek's march towards service quality excellence and good governance, please e-mail your resumé at contactus@ekonek.com

Office Address: Unit 6-D Washington Tower Condominium, Asiaworld City, E. Aguinaldo Blvd., Parañaque City.

Tel. No. 8798310 or 879-4560 ext 4972

URGENTLY NEEDED

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Male or female, not more than 27 years of age
- Must be a graduate of BS Accountancy
- At least 2 years experience in general accounting
- Knowledge in finance functions such as billing, credit and collection is an advantage
- Good in oral and written communication
- Computer literate
- Responsive, takes initiative, and does not require close supervision

Interested applicants must submit personally their resumé (w/ photo) and transcript of records to:

MENZI & CO., INC.
20th Floor, Security Bank Centre
6776 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
or e-mail to: casamenzi@yahoo.com

A Makati-based company needs the following:

MECHANIC

Male, not more than 35 yrs. old. At least 3 years experience in automotive mechanics. Automotive Mechanics graduate.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

Male, BSCE graduate. License an advantage. Not more than 30 yrs. old. 2 yrs. working experience in civil works. Must have driving skills and have a valid Driver's license. Can work with minimum supervision and can work long hours. Flexible.

CAD ENGINEER

Male or female. Civil Engineering graduate. License an advantage. Between 21 to 30 yrs. old. Single. Knowledge in AutoCad 2000 or higher version & 3D Drawings. Must have an extensive experience in CadWorks particularly Telecom Cell site drawings. Can work under minimum supervision.

Please refrain from sending in your credentials and submit only your resumé indicating your desired salary either to:

hrrecruitement@yahoo.com

or to

The Human Resource Manager
MCPO Box No. 2060
Makati City

The **ONLY** training you need to get a **JOB** - the sure way!

CALL CENTER TRAINING PROGRAM

- Gain CONFIDENCE to pass interviews
- Pass CALL SIMULATION TESTS
- Improve ACCENT, SPEAKING LISTENING SKILLS & GRAMMAR
- Don't waste your ONE CHANCE in getting hired
- INCREASE your chances by 500%
- Get a call center job in 12 DAYS
- Competition is TOUGH .. PREPARE NOW!

INTENSIVE 60 Hours
with FREE Audio CD
P500* downpayment accepted
ENROLL NOW!
Registration Deadline: SEPT. 7* only

- Most Affordable!
- Computer-Assisted!
- Modern Facilities!
- TESDA-Accredited!
- 2005 & 2006 Most Outstanding Call Center Training Provider

CALL US NOW!!!
Office Hours Mon - Sat 9am - 6:30pm
Morning, Afternoon, Evening & Weekend Classes Offered

100% GUARANTEED JOB
Assistance to our Call Center Partners

People PacificHub iConnect

Join our graduates working in CONVERGYS, SYKES, PEOPLE SUPPORT, eTELECARE, CLIENT LOGIC, INFOXXX, CYNTAR ICT, HSBC DELL, VISION-X AMPERAGE ACCENTURE eSPOT and MORE!

New Tech Learning Hub
"I helping people get call center jobs"

637-2547 Pasig
Unit 2, 4/F Bloomingdale Plaza
Shaw Blvd., Bo. Kapitolyo
(near PAG-IBIG/in front of SSS)

6 Sales Reps.,

Female, Single, at least College level, with or without experience. Apply at 1291 Batangas St., San Isidro, Makati or call 844-64-81 / 83.

unicef

CONSULTANT for Resource Mapping of Monitoring Mechanisms on Child Rights Violations

The consultant helps UNICEF map out and analyze existing data collection systems in the Philippines covering grave child rights violations in situations of armed conflict.

Main duties include: (1) Identify potential regular data collection resources for the child rights violation and understand the types and quality of data they produce; (2) Review the instruments used and document relevant definitions; (3) Make recommendations as to how UN Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism can be linked with the existing systems and where new data collection is needed.

Essential qualifications:

- *Advanced university degree in social science or related fields*
- *Extensive experience in social science research.*
- *Deep knowledge on human and child rights.*
- *Knowledge of information and data base technology an asset*

For the detailed terms of reference and information on the application process, email Rin Kobayashi in UNICEF Child Protection Section at rkobayashi@unicef.org ***by 7 September 2007.***

unicef

Invitation for proposals to produce VIDEO-DOCUMENTARIES

Proposals are invited for production of 4 video documentaries on the following UNICEF-assisted projects:

- Children affected by abuse, exploitation and trafficking;
- Children affected by armed conflict;
- Children in conflict with law; and
- Street children

Individual proposal is required for each of the video documentary.

Essential qualifications:

- *Proven record of work in filmmaking, particularly in documentary and advocacy.*
- *Excellent skills in video filming and editing.*
- *Familiarity with child protection and child rights issues.*
- *Previous work in the area of child rights an asset.*

For the detailed terms of reference and information on the application process, email Rin Kobayashi in UNICEF Child Protection Section at rkobayashi@unicef.org ***by 7 September 2007.***

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- Female, 21years old & above
- College graduate, highly motivated & willing to work mall hours
- Knows CorelDraw & Photoshop

Please submit resume with recent photo to:
JAY C. DESIGNS, INC.
142 Road 3, Pagasa, Q.C. Tel. # 927-1776
or e-mail to: jay_c_designs@pldtdsl.net

JOB Market

Read it every Sunday in the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

INQUIRER

Dare to ask. Be an Inquire

Where you find the best.

JOB Market

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007
Philippine Copyright 1995

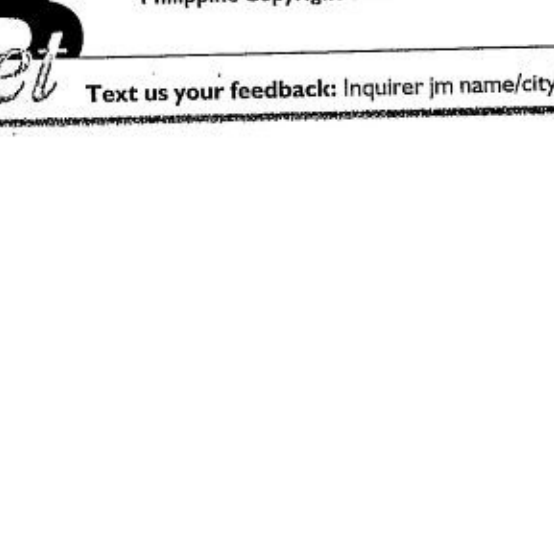
For jobseekers, log on to:
www.jobsmarketonline.com

JOBMarket is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities

RATES (R-VAT exclusive)
P245 per column centimeter every Sunday
DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon

Text us your feedback: Inquirer jm name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Find A Career In Here ☆☆ 51



Running in circles?

Build a great career with a company that can get you places.

op Ex
lly

It's the obvious choice.

OPENINGS IN ALABANG:
Inbound Customer Care Representatives
Recruitment Associate (Project Based)

OPENINGS IN ORTIGAS:
Non-Agent Positions
Operations Manager - Financial Service Business Unit
SAS Analyst - Day shift
Senior Statistician - Day shift
Statistician - Day shift
** Please email resumes to*
batchie.permalino@convergys.com
Recruitment Coordinator
Marketing/Sourcing Coordinator
*** Please email resumes to*
marlyn.r.nagas@convergys.com
Agent Positions
Outbound Collections Representatives
Technical Support Representatives
Finance and Sales Associates

OPENINGS IN COMMONWEALTH:
Inbound Customer Care Representatives
Technical Customer Care Representatives
Recruitment Officer
Recruitment Specialist
HR Officer
HR Specialist

OPENINGS IN MAKATI:
Customer Care Representative - Sales
Customer Care Representative - Landline Specialist
Technical Customer Care Representative
Operations Manager - Email
Recruitment Officer
Recruitment Specialist
Recruitment Coordinator
Purchasing Associate (project based)
OJTs (HR/Communication/computer graphics)

*Applicants can come in casual attire from August - Octob

Experience 1-day processing with one of the world's largest contact centers.
Grab the opportunity NOW! Apply and be hired on the same day.

5555CVG

philippinesrecruitment@convergys.com

For U-Belt Applicants, we accept walk-ins Mondays to Sundays, 10am to 7pm.
For more information on how to apply, text CVG HELP to 2898

ALABANG OFFICE
Block 44, Northgate Cyberzone, Muntinlupa City
(02) 758-1688

CEBU BANAWA OFFICE
R. Arcenas St., Arcenas Estate, Banawa Hills, Cebu City
(032) 416-5810

CEBU ASIATOWN IT PARK OFFICE
11/F 12 Bldg. Asiatown IT Park, Lahug, Cebu City
(032) 411 - 9200

COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
2/F Diliman Commercial Center, #46 Don Mariano Marcos Ave. Diliman, Quezon City
(02) 256-7088

MAKATI OFFICE
Convergys One, 6796 Ayala Ave., cor Salcedo Legaspi Village, Makati City
(02) 756-7188

ORTIGAS OFFICE
24th Floor, Robinsons Equitable Tower, #4 ADB Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City
(02) 457-4578

U-BELT OFFICE
Level 1, St. Thomas Square
1150 España Boulevard cor. Padre Campa St.
Sampaloc, Manila
(02) 735-2006

Build your Future at Convergys

CONVERGYS
Outthinking.Outdoing.

Join Our Team and GROW with US!

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MARKETING RESEARCH MANAGER

MARKETING RESEARCH STAFF

MARKETING ASSISTANT

FLEET MANAGER

Panatang St. Peterian
3K
KAUNLARAN · KABAYANIHAN

GRAPHIC ARTIST

MIS ANALYST

ACCOUNTING STAFF

OFFICE STAFF

ST. PETER LIFE PLAN
DeathCare Experts
Quezon Avenue corner No. 2 West 4th St., Quezon City
Telephone No. 371-77-57
E-mail: cecilpb@stpeter.com.ph
spipi_deathcareexperts@yahoo.com

NOW HIRING!

ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering and other related courses
- At least 2-4 years experience in the garment-manufacturing environment
- Knowledgeable in the various stages of garment/apparel production, merchandise planning and distribution process
- Excellent analytical, mathematical and negotiation skills
- Strong MS Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint) background
- Can effectively operate in a multi-tasked work atmosphere
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, relationship building and presentation skills

FASHION DESIGNER/MERCHANDISER
- Male/Female, 23 - 34 years old
- Graduate of Fine Arts, Clothing Technology, Fashion Design and Merchandising or other fashion related courses
- Experience in garment/apparel production, manufacturing process, fashion and retail visual merchandising is an advantage
- Adept in using design software (Corel Draw and Photoshop)
- With outstanding creative skills in drawing, sketching, rendering, product display and visual merchandising

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION ASSISTANT
- Male, 23 - 27 years old
- Graduate of MIS, Information Technology, and other computer-related courses
- Familiarity with retail POS system is a plus
- With above average communication and organizational skills

ACCOUNTING CLERK
- Female, 23 - 27 years old
- Graduate of Accounting and other business related courses
- Minimum of 1 year work experience
- Strong MS Excel skills
- Can effectively operate in a multi-tasked atmosphere
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, relationship building and presentation skills

OPERATIONS ASSISTANT
- Female, 23 - 27 years old
- Graduate of Business Administration, Economics, Statistics, Accounting and other business related courses
- Minimum of 1 year work experience connected to business/logistics operations and/or retailing experience in product allocation
- With above average computer skills and strong MS Excel background
- Must be organized, detail oriented, has the ability to prioritize multiple projects and effectively operate in a multi-tasked almosphere

STORE MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
- Female, 20 - 28 years old, at least 5'4" in height
- At least 2nd year college level
- Must possess leadership and supervisory potentials
- With pleasing personality, excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Honest, hardworking and energetic. Self-motivated and sensitive to the needs of the customers

STORE SALES PERSONNEL
- Female, 18 - 25 years old, at least 5'4" in height
- At least 2nd year college level
- With pleasing personality, good customer relation and oral communication skills
- Honest, hardworking and energetic. Self-motivated and sensitive to the needs of the customers

Interested qualified applicants may apply in person or send their resume with 2X2 photo to:

APPLE & EVE
Human Resource Department
#8 Jose Cruz St., Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City
or email us at hr@apple-eve.com

NEOPLAN MAN

MAN Automotive Concessionaires Corporation (MACC)

MAN Automotive Concessionaires Corporation (MACC), exclusive distributor, importer, assembler of MAN Trucks and Buses from Germany is the leading European commercial vehicles supplier in the Philippines. MAN Nutzfahrzeuge AG is a recognized global leader in vehicles and engineering equipment. MACC has delivered the most advanced commercial vehicles with the highest emission standards to the Filipino riding public for the last 17 years. The MAN brand has long stood for reliability and efficiency, and in our effort to further share our service across the nation, we are searching for qualified sales engineers who are driven, dynamic, and diligent.

Sales Engineers
(Luzon*, Visayas)**

Responsibilities:
To promote and market MAN brand Trucks & Buses.

Have the following Qualifications:
- A Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering (Mechanical) or equivalent.
- 25-40 years of age
- 2 year(s) working experience specializing in Sales-Engineering/Technical
- Knowledge in Automotive Technology
- Possess driver's license and with significant driving experience.

Required skill
- Must be adept with the latest version of MS Office & Adobe Acrobat
- Must be familiar with the latest communication technologies.

Remuneration
Basic Salary + Incentives + Commission
* willing to travel all over Luzon
** Applicant must be a resident of Cebu, knows how to speak the Visayan dialect and willing to travel all over the Visayas.

You may send your resumes and application to following addresses:
1) info@man-mn.ph
2) manautomotive@yahoo.com.ph
3) Or you may apply in person at this address: 391 (Km. 14) Quirino Highway, Talipapa, Novaliches, Quezon City

SKECHERS

Concession Supervisor / Concession Coordinators
- Male / Female, 21-28 years old.
- Graduate of Management, Marketing, Business Administration, Accountancy or other related business courses with commendable scholastic records.
- With at least one (1) year experience in managing stores and handling sales personnel.
- Possess excellent leadership skills, highly analytical with a keen eye for detail and an innate business sense.
- Fresh graduates with adequate exposure in effectively leading groups, planning and organizing events / activities are encouraged to apply.

Marketing Associate
- Female, 21-28 years old.
- Graduate of Marketing, Communication Arts, Management or other related courses with commendable scholastic records.
- With at least one (1) year experience in marketing, advertising, or promotions.
- Fresh graduates with adequate exposure in effectively leading groups, planning and organizing events / activities are encouraged to apply.

Warehouse Management Trainee
- Male / Female, 21-28 years old.
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Management, Business Administration, or other related courses with commendable scholastic records.
- With at least one (1) year experience in logistics and warehouse operations. Experience in handling people and managing inventory a definite plus.
- Possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Will be tasked to document, analyze and propose changes to existing warehouse operations.

We are also looking for applicants for the following positions:
- Store Supervisors
- Accounting / Audit Assistants
- Executive Secretary
- Office Assistants

Human Resource Department
Unit E-2804B, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Tektite East Tower
Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
E-mail : hrd@i-trend.com.ph

POEA TOP PERFORMER AWARDEE 2002-2005
RELIABLE RECRUITMENT CORPORATION
POEA License No. 004-LB-053106-R

URGENTLY NEEDED:

382 NURSES FOR NEW ZEALAND
In cooperation with Alta Solutions Limited Accred. No. 90011 and Arcee Nursing International Ltd. Accred. No. 73589.

- a REGISTERED NURSE
- Minimum of 1 year hospital experience
- IELTS passers with a minimum score of 7.0 in speaking, reading, writing, listening
- Become permanent resident and bring family after 6 months
- Salary: NZ$20 and over / hour
- Holder of NCNZ letter of approval may be deployed faster
- Nurses registered in New Zealand, United Kingdom and Australia have ready employers
- Placement Fee Financing Available

AUSTRALIA – NO PLACEMENT FEE
In cooperation with Kilcoy Pastoral Company Ltd. Accred. No. 10087922 and Global Recruiting Services PTY. LTD. Accreditation No. 10084705

90 BUTCHERS
* Must have 5 years experience working in slaughter house
* High School Graduate
* Willing to review and take IELTS test
* Ready to travel as temporary immigrant with wife if married
* Attractive Salary
* Other benefits under Australia labor law

HOTEL/RESTAURANT WORKERS IN MACAU (S.A.R) CHINA
In cooperation with ANCHORE INTERNATIONAL ENTERPRISES LTD
Accred. No. 10112356

	Salary
* 4 MANAGERS	MOP$ 9,000
*15 APPRENTICE	MOP$ 5,000
* 6 SERVER BAR	MOP$ 5,000
* 7 BARTENDER	MOP$ 7,000
* 4 CASHIER	MOP$ 5,000
* 4 CHEF DE PARTIES	MOP$ 7,500
*20 COMMIS	MOP$ 5,500
*10 DEMI CHEF	MOP$ 6,500
*10 HEAD WAITERS / WAITRESSES	MOP$ 7,000
*15 HOSTESSES	MOP$ 7,000
* 6 CHIEF PASTRY	MOP$ 9,000
*23 WAITERS / WAITRESSES	MOP $5,000

QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS:
- Age: 23-40 – Male/Female – College Level/Graduate
- Can speak, read and write Good English – Resumé with detailed job description
- Transcript of Record/College and/or Trade Diploma – Minimum 1 year experience
- NBI Clearance – Certificate of Employment
- Trainings/Seminars Certificates – Driver's License, if any
- Ex-overseas worker, an advantage

PLEASE REPORT TO:
RELIABLE RECRUITMENT CORPORATION

Main Office: 1166 Grey Street, Ermita, Manila
Tel. No. 5222128 / 5251935 / 5261310
Email: relcor@skyinet.net

Branch Office: 2nd Flr., Raintree Mall, Cebu City
Telephone: (032) 2549697
Email: reliablerecruitment@yahoo.com

"MAG-INGAT SA MGA ILLEGAL RECRUITERS"

Chemonics International

RECRUITMENT FOR POLICY AND FINANCE TEAM LEADER

Chemonics seeks a Policy and Finance Team Leader for the USAID-funded Philippine Linking Initiatives and Networking to Control Tuberculosis Program (TB LINC). The Team Leader will work with project staff and partner organizations to formulate, implement, and monitor work plans to improve the policy environment for TB DOTS implementation. In doing so, s/he will work in close collaboration with the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP), the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), Local Government Units (LGUs), other USAID projects, and numerous other partner organizations to ensure effective and collaborative implementation of all activities related to the fight against tuberculosis in the Philippines. Specific activities include helping PhilHealth develop and implement policies and procedures which will eventually lead to the financial sustainability of high quality DOTS service providers. In achieving this goal, considerable effort will also focus on ensuring that the indigent population has access to TB services. This position is based in Manila.

Qualifications:
- Advanced degree in management, economics, or a related field.
- Experience managing international programs or similar programs
- Extensive experience working in the health sector in all or a combination of the following areas:
  - TB
  - Infectious diseases, including AI (Avian Influenza)
  - Policy development
  - Health finance
  - Devolved public health systems
- Experience working with the private and public sectors, preferably in the Philippines
- Experience working with USAID and other donors preferred; experience managing diverse portfolios desirable
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to interface with government officials and international donors
- Dynamic leader able to manage diverse team and achieve results

Fluency in written and spoken English required.

Application Instructions:

Send electronic submissions to mhook@chemonics.com by September 15, 2007. No telephone inquiries, please.

Finalists will be contacted.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The ACIW/LO-FTF Project is seeking to recruit a PROJECT OFFICER to work on a Capacity Building Project to support construction and informal workers in the Philippines with at least (3) years in progressively responsible positions. In addition, the candidate should at least have:

REQUIREMENTS:
- A College degree in behavioral/social sciences preferably with specialized training in social development, economics, management, or its equivalent
- Technical knowledge in developing, managing and implementing development cooperation project
- Thorough understanding of labor relations and familiarity with practices and procedures of trade union development cooperation projects
- Strong working knowledge of trade unionism and labor related issues
- Good Command of (English and national local language) in oral and written communication skills
- Proven interpersonal, cross-cultural, and negotiation skills
- Ability to effectively liaise with project partners and other stakeholders
- Working knowledge of Excel, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and the Internet.

Applications in English with resumé and a recent photograph should be sent to the

ACIW Office: Unit 326, Eagle Court Condominium,
26 Matalino Street, Barangay Central, Quezon City
Tel. No. (02) 433-4746 Telefax: (02) 926-6036
Email: aciw_manila@yahoo.com.ph
Attention: Mr. Nonoy Palarca, Secretary General

ABC

American Bio-Clinical Laboratories, Int'l.

Now HIRING!

www.abclab.com.ph
e-mail: info@abclab.com.ph
Tel.: 850-6288; 850-6289
Fax: 807-9626

- **Registered Medical Technologist/s**
  Resident of Pasig, Mandaluyong, Makati, preferred
- **Client Service/Customer Relations Staff**
  Med. Tech. Or graduate of any Medical Related courses
  Resident of South Manila preferred
- **Courier (Motorized)**
  High School Graduate, Resident of South Manila preferred

URGENTLY NEEDED
BY A GROUP OF COMPANIES

BANK TELLERS: COLLEGE GRADUATE WITH 2 YEARS BANKING EXPERIENCE

MARKETING COORDINATOR:
EXCELLENT IN ORAL & WRITTEN ENGLISH SKILLS
COLLEGE GRADUATE MARKETING MAJOR A PLUS
COMPUTER PROFICIENT
HAVE EXCELLENT PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS

AUDIT ASSISTANT: ACCOUNTING GRADUATE WITH 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN RELATED FIELD
CERTIFIED INTERNAL AUDIT A PLUS

FABRICARE Accent Filipino Savers Bank

Please call for further information
9304677 9304672 9396358 9396370
or email resume to
hrd_fabricare@yahoo.com

Opening new horizons... GLOBALLY!

We are searching for seasoned industry professionals for

CALL CENTER REPRESENTATIVES

INBOUND CUSTOMER SERVICE : FINANCIAL SERVICES

EARN AS MUCH AS P30,000++ MONTHLY!!!

OTHER MANAGERIAL/SUPPORT OPENINGS:

Workforce Director, Client Relations Manager, Accounting Manager, Training Manager, HR Specialist & Associates, Product Trainers, Applications Developer, Telcoms Engineer, Systems Engineer, Real-time Analysts, Audit Officer

VXI Global Solutions, Inc.

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE!

MAKATI CITY: 15/F Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue QUEZON CITY: 1024 Global Trade Center Bldg., Project 7, EDSA - - - Monday to Friday 7AM - 3PM

WEBSITE: www.vxi.com EMAIL: careersph@vxi.com AD BLOG: www.vxi-ads.blogspot.com

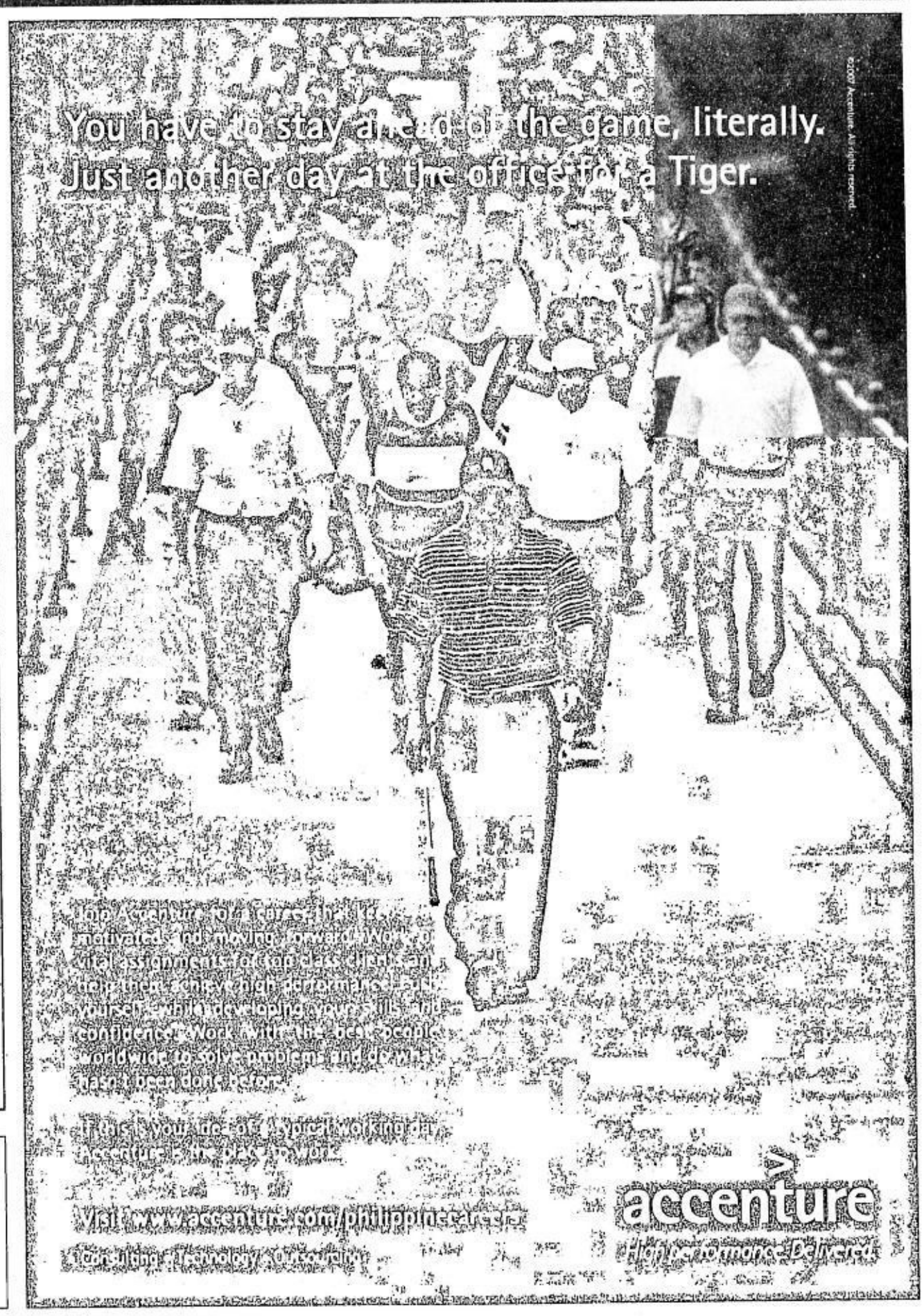
Be part of the driving force behind the No. 1 automotive company where GREAT people work as a TEAM...

TOYOTA moving forward

THE POSITION:	THE QUALIFICATIONS:
AREA OPERATIONS REPRESENTATIVES	• Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering, BS Marketing or any related courses • With good scholastic records • With excellent oral and written communication skills
PRODUCT PLANNER	• Male; 21-25 years old • Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering, BS Marketing or any business related courses • With excellent oral and written communication skills • Must be knowledgeable in different automobile principles, car accessorizing & designing
MANAGEMENT TRAINER	• Graduate of BS Business Administration or any business related courses • With excellent oral and written communication skills • Must be comfortable in making presentations
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE	• Graduate of BS Business Administration or any business-related courses • With excellent oral and written communication skills • Highly analytical and understanding of operations in the automotive industry
REGULATION AND CERTIFICATION REPRESENTATIVE	• Male; 20-25 years old • Graduate of BS Mechanical or BS Industrial Engineering • Good customer handling and Automotive know how is an advantage
DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY ENGINEERS	• Male; 20-25 years old • Graduate of BS Manufacturing & Engineering Management, BS Mechanical Engineering, or BS Industrial Engineering • Must possess a valid driver's license • Should know the basics of automotive technology and how to do a mechanical drawing • Proficient in Autocad, Catia, and MS Office
CONVERSION AND ACCESSORIES PLANNER	• Male; 20-25 years old • Graduate of BS Marketing or BS Industrial Engineering • Should have conceptual skills in problem analysis, systems study, market study, product presentation, methods of improvement, sales and promotion planning.
TECHNICAL TRAINERS	• Graduate of any Business or Engineering related courses • Should have the ability to analyze numbers, statistics and decision making
MARKETING SERVICES SPECIALIST	• Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering, BS Marketing or any business-related courses • With excellent oral and written communication skills • Good customer handling and Automotive know how is an advantage
PROGRAMMER	• Graduate of BS Computer Science, BS Information Technology or BS Computer Engineering • With good scholastic record
SYSTEMS ANALYST (Supervisory Position)	• Graduate of BS Computer Science or any related 4-year Information Technology Courses • Extensive background in systems analysis and project management in the field of manufacturing and finance systems • Excellent communication, interpersonal and analytical skills • 3-5 years related experience in a supervisory position • Knowledgeable in Visual Basic, in an IBM/AS400 environment • Experience in RPG /AS 400 would be an advantage
LOGISTICS PLANNER	• Graduate of BS Commerce or BS Industrial Engineering • Must have planning and project conceptualization skills • Shall facilitate new projects from conceptualization, implementation, monitoring and recommendation of new procedures to improve logistic operations • Knowledgeable in supply chain operations
ACCOUNTANT	• (Preferably) Certified Public Accountant • With good scholastic records • Related work experience in manufacturing operations is an advantage
PROCUREMENT BUYER	• Graduate of BS Commerce, BS Industrial Engineering, or BS Mechanical Engineering • With excellent oral and written communication skills • Must be analytical and with good negotiations skills
DESIGN ENGINEER	• Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering • Knowledgeable with AutoCAD and CAD • Results-oriented and highly motivated • With good scholastic records
RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST	• Male/Female; 21-25 years old • Graduate of BS Psychology • With excellent oral and written communication skills • Experience in interviewing and psychological test administration is an advantage

Qualified applicants may send their resume, photocopy of transcript of records, and recent 2X2 photo to.

recruitment.mailbox@toyota.com.ph
or
GAD-HRD-Recruitment and Training Section
TOYOTA MOTOR PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
Toyota Special Economic Zone
Sta.Rosa-Tagaytay Highway, City of Santa Rosa, Laguna
Tel. No. 825-8888 local 8181,8182 / Fax No. 6800.5086



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market

positions available

If you have what it takes to bend and stretch and reach and exert all you can to achieve success, then we have positions available for you. BCD Pinpoint, one of the country's leading DM/CRM agencies, is looking for the following limber individuals:

CALL CENTER AGENTS
At least college undergrad • Must possess good (English and Tagalog) communication skills • Able to hold pleasant but assertive customer conversation • Telemarketing experience a major plus • Sees high sales targets as a challenge • Flexible enough to be assigned varying work hours

CALL CENTER SUPERVISOR
College grad • Fluent in oral/written English and Tagalog • At least 1 year call center customer service/sales experience • Experienced in supervising agents • Adept at Microsoft Excel and Powerpoint • Lucent CenterVu knowledge a plus • Skilled in crafting inbound/outbound telemarketing scripts • Assistant team leaders, coaches and buddies encouraged to apply

COPYWRITER
With well-honed conceptualization skills • Able writer in both Filipino and English • Deadline beater • Team player • Excellent MS Office skills

GRAPHIC/WEB DESIGNER
Graduate of Fine Arts or any related course • Fast thinker with highly-developed conceptualization skills • Graceful under pressure • Nimble with HTML, PHP, Javascript, Dreamweaver, Flash, Fireworks, and Adobe Photoshop • Flexible working knowledge in web technologies: TCP/IP, IIS and Apache • At least 1 year of working experience

If you like any of these positions, stretch those limbs and send your resumé together with your cover letter **no later than September 14, 2007** to apply@bcdpinpoint.com
Write the following in the subject line: CC for Call Center Agent; CW for Copywriter; CS for Call Center Supervisor; WD for Web Designer

BCD•PINPOINT

MICRODATA SYSTEMS AND MANAGEMENT, INC.

A leader in the sales and rental of audio-visual systems, Videoconferencing facility, digital imaging solutions is in need of dynamic and matured individuals to fill up the following posts

SALES MANAGER
- M/F, College degree in Marketing or any business-related course
- With at least 3 years solid experience gained from sales & service industry
- Must have extensive network of clients and connections
- Successful candidate can look forward to a challenging career and attractive compensation package depending on qualifications
- Provincial applicants are also encouraged to apply

SALES / ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- M/F, not more than 35 years old
- Graduate of business or IT related courses
- With at least 2 years experience in sales gained from an IT company
- Successful candidate can look forward to a challenging career and attractive Compensation package depending on qualifications
- Provincial applicants are also encouraged to apply
- Fresh graduates will be considered for the Sales Trainee position

SECRETARY
- Female, not more than 30 years old, preferably single
- Graduate of 4-year business-related course
- With at least 2 years experience as an executive secretary
- Aggressive and independent, can work under minimum supervision

PROGRAMMER / SERVICE ENGINEER
- Male, BS Computer Science or Engineering graduate
- Must have programming skills preferably using Visual Basic and C++
- Will serve as technical support to clients

MARKETING SPECIALIST
- Female, between 22-28 years old, Marketing graduate
- At least with 1 year work-related experience and can do events brand management

Address: Mds Bldg., 817 J.P. Rizal St., Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines
Tel. No.: (632) 897-7777; **Fax No.:** (632) 897-7444
Email: mdsinfo@microdata.com.ph **Website:** www.microdata.com.ph

Get a second life.

application services

IBM

IBM Solutions Delivery, Inc.

Start a new career with us! Mainframe Programmers * Java Developers * SAP Consultants * SW Project Managers * Business Analysts * Test Managers * Database Specialists
E-mail your CVs to **careers@ibmsd.com**

IBM and the IBM logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation in the United States, other countries, or both. Other company, product, or service names may be trademarks or service marks of others.
© Copyright IBM Corporation, 2007. All rights reserved.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB Market LIBRE CAREER EXPO

Pull out your banderitas and blow your whistles because it's going to be a Career Fiesta with the Inquirer Job Market Septemberfest Career Expo 2007! Celebrate downpour of the best careers, with the biggest job expo of the year, only from the country's most read and most trusted newspaper.

3-5 SEPTEMBER 2007 • GLORIETTA ACTIVITY CENTER

MEDIA SPONSORS

Integrated Computer Systems, Inc. is the country's leading solutions provider with a full range of products and services for businesses nationwide.

If you believe in innovation and excellence then we invite you to join our dynamic team as ;

NETWORK ENGINEER

Responsibilities:
- On-site diagnostic, isolation, assessment, preventive maintenance and troubleshooting of servers and network related problems.
- Test new releases of network operating systems, network software and new server hardware.
- Recommend network solutions and products to customers as necessary.

Candidate must be a Bachelors degree holder in Computer Engineering or any IT related course. With at least one (1) year experience in the operation and maintenance of computers, servers and other peripherals. MCSA Certification preferred. Is adept in network installation, testing and troubleshooting. With excellent oral and written communication skills.Has strong customer service orientation with ability to probe/inquire into customer needs.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER

Responsibilities:
- On-site diagnostic, isolation and assessment of technical problems.
- Troubleshooting and preventive maintenance.

With at least one (1) year experience in technical support, preferably in an IT company. Must be a Bachelor's degree graduate of Computer Engineering or any IT related course. Has above average communication and interpersonal skills.

ACCOUNT OFFICER

Responsibilities:
- Prospect, develop and explore new business opportunities with the country's top corporations.
- Maintain and expand the organization's business relationships with existing corporate accounts.
- Aggressively and effectively contribute to the company's objectives by meeting or even exceeding sales targets.

Equipped with at least two (2) years experience in Corporate Sales, preferably in an IT industry. A Degree holder in any Business Management, Marketing or Computer related course. An effective communicator with excellent customer service orientation and positive sales attitude. Resourceful and results-driven. Female, not more than 30 years old.

Successful applicants will receive competitive remuneration packages (aside from the standard benefits).

Please send your resumés *with picture* to:

The HR Department
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
3/F Limketkai Bldg., Ortigas Avenue, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila 1502
E-mail: hrd@ics.com.ph, mbantao@ics.com.ph • Website: www.ics.com.ph

Get more exposure for your ad.
Advertise in JobMarket Libre

Inquire about the JobMarket Libre at 897-8808 loc 514

JOB Market

XCEPTIONAL PEOPLE CAN AFFORD TO HAVE XCEPTIONAL TASTES

ENJOY XTRAORDINARY EARNING POTENTIAL
AS A CALL CENTER PROFESSIONAL AT

ePERFORMAX
CONTACT CENTERS

Now Hiring

Experienced Call Center Managers & Supervisors

MANILA

Operations: Lead Generation Specialist • Coach • Team Leader
Customer Service Representatives • IP Relay Operator

Support: PMax Support Manager • Budget & Treasury Manager for Finance
HR Supervisor - Ops Support • Management Trainer • Program Specific Trainer • Recruitment Specialist
Reporting Specialist • Database Administrator • Programmer • Technical Documentation Specialist •

CEBU

Operations: Coach • Team Leader • Quality Assurance Specialist
Customer Service Representatives • Workforce Specialist

Support: PMax Support Manager • Recruitment Manager • HR Supervisor
Programmer • Database Administrator

*Please visit our website www.ihavethetalent.com for the complete list of available positions.

7F BPI Buendia Center, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave, Makati City
manilacareers@eperformax.com
Subject: Manila (Position applying for)
TextConnect: Type ePerformax<space>Name<space>
Position applying for<space>MB and send to
0917-8902327
490-2288 loc. 6823

ePerformax Contact Centers is proud to be a member of the Transnational Diversified Group

Xpresso Career Café, Ground Floor JY Square, Mall,
Salinas Drive, Lahug, Cebu City
cebucareers@eperformax.com
Subject: Cebu (Position applying for)
Textconnect: Type ePerformax<space>Name
<space>Cebu<space>Position applying for and
send to 0917-8902327.
411-9700

TESDA certified for PGMA's Finishing Course for Contact Center Agents

PBSP
Philippine Business for Social Progress

Business Empowering the Poor

In the face of poverty, we see endless opportunities for growth

We are among the country's leading corporate-led social development foundations. Through the years, our job has meant more than just its pay. If you believe that you can make a difference in other people's lives, we invite you to fill in:

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
(Human Resource Development Unit)

The Tasks
Effectively implements HRD functions specific to Manpower Planning & Budgeting; Job Analysis & Evaluation; Personnel Documentation (i.e. contract preparation, 201 Files Management, HRIS Maintenance); Management-Staff Relations & Communications; and Recruitment, Placement & Out-placement.

The Requirements
Interested applicants must have a college degree in Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related course. He/she must have at least 2 years professional experience in a similar organization. Working knowledge in the different facets of HR such as Training & Development and Performance Management System is an advantage. He/she must have excellent communication, analytical and interpersonal skills.

STAFF AUDITOR
(Internal Audit Unit)

The Tasks
Provides technical assistance to PBSP operating units in assessing the compliance of programs/projects and proponents with applicable terms and conditions and assists the Internal Auditor in undertaking financial and management review of PBSP operations and systems.

The Requirements
Applicants are preferably Certified Public Accountants or Certified Internal Auditors. He/she must have at least two years experience in all phases of accounting, preferably in a development setting, and experience in public or external auditing firm/private practice. He/she must be proficient in the use of computers and possess ample knowledge in MIS. Experience in setting up organizational systems is an advantage.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER – MEDIA RELATIONS
(Foundation Affairs Unit)

The Tasks
Promotes Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives and increases the awareness of programs and accomplishments of PBSP and its member companies through print and broadcast media exposure, both locally and internationally.

The Requirements
Interested applicants must hold a college degree in Communications, Journalism, Broadcast Communication, Advertising or any related field. He/she must have at least 2 years journalism or media/public relations experience with substantial knowledge in presswork and understanding of social development. He/she must have excellent skills in conceptualizing publications design and in writing for print media and copyright.

MANAGER
(General Services Unit)

The Tasks
Prepares and supervises the efficient implementation and discharge of general administration functions for the Foundation. Optimizes use of the Foundation's physical assets. Performs inventory management, maintenance and disposal of fixed assets. Provides logistics support to ensure smooth flow of business operations. Rolls out workplace systems that streamline office functions and assure safety. Markets the Foundation's training facilities.

The Requirements
Interested applicants must have a college degree in Industrial / Business Management or any related field. He/she must have at least 3 years managerial experience in a similar organization with working knowledge in EMS, productivity/quality management and legal rulings pertaining to building codes, safety, licensing, etc. He/she must have excellent negotiating, communication and interpersonal skills.

SENIOR GSU OFFICER
(General Services Unit)

The Tasks
Assists the Unit Manager in ensuring the optimum utilization of PBSP's physical resources (i.e. training and dormitory facilities) in support of the Foundation's goals and objectives and in the efficient implementation of the general administrative functions of the Foundation.

The Requirements
Interested applicants must have a college degree in Industrial / Business Management, Engineering or in any related field. He/she must have at least 3 years supervisory experience in a similar organization with working knowledge in asset management, training center management, and building administration. He/she must have excellent marketing, negotiation, and communication skills.

Please forward your resume and transcript of records to:

THE HRD MANAGER
Philippine Business for Social Progress
Philippine Social Development Center, Magallanes cor.
Real Sts., Intramuros, Manila
Tel.: 527-7741 to 51 • Fax: 527-3743
Email: hrd@pbsp.org.ph • Website: www.pbsp.org.ph

---

it's different here,
IT'S BETTER HERE!

What makes West better than the rest?
- We have a new and improved compensation package for our Agents
- Enjoy increased Rice/Meal/Transportation Allowance
- Better incentive and commission package
- West is where your loyalty is truly rewarded
- At West you can earn referral incentives
- More career growth opportunities

Now Seeking:
- Technical Support Representatives
- Customer Care Representatives

west®

Apply Now! westemployment.com

West Contact Services, Inc. • HR Employment Office
Phone:784-8600 • Fax 857-7431/32 • Email: MakatiJobs@west.com

Two Locations! Accepting applications at the Exportbank Plaza Office

24/F Exportbank Plaza
Don Chino Roces cor Sen.
Gil Puyat, Makati

17th & 18th Floors, Robinsons
Cybergate Center, Tower 1
EDSA corner Pioneer Street
Mandaluyong City

NOW HIRING
Technical Support, Customer Service, Sales Representatives

Come join the most rapidly expanding call center in the industry

Brand New State-of-the-Art & Conveniently Located Facility
Competitive Salaries for ALL Positions
3,000 MONTHLY Attendance Bonus
20% Night Differential Pay
Company Shuttle Service
Tenure Bonus
and much more

4 HOURS PROCESSING ONLY
Bring an updated copy of your resume

Our Recruitment Office is located at
Level 3 MS303, EDSA Central Pavilion, Mandaluyong City
Monday-Saturday 7AM - 9PM / Sunday 8AM - 5PM
Hotline: (02) 637-7111 local 301 & 302

Teleperformance
we perform
manilarecruitment@teleperformance.com
www.teleperformance.com

THE AXA
"I want to be part of a global powerhouse"
PLAN.

AXA Philippines, the country's fastest-growing life insurer, is in need of

Financial Executives
For Metro Manila and Provincial Areas
Valenzuela, EDSA, Malabon, Binondo, Sta.Cruz, Blumentritt, Ermita, Pasig, Makati, Cubao, Marikina,Rizal, Cavite, San Pablo Laguna, Concepcion Tarlac, Apalit Pampanga, Cebu, Zamboanga, Bukidnon, Iligan, Maasin Leyte, Catbalogan Samar

A basic salary, superior compensation package and travel opportunities await qualified candidates.

QUALIFICATIONS:
- 22 to 35 years old
- College graduate of any 4-year course
- Professional sales experience in real estate, stock trading & insurance is an advantage
- For Binondo, fluency in Mandarin is an advantage
- Fresh graduates are also encouraged to apply

Please bring an updated resume with recent photo and personally apply at
BankAssure Recruitment, 2/F Philippines AXA Life Centre,
Sen Gil Puyat Ave., Cor Tindalo St. Makati City
Monday - Friday, 8:30am to 3:30pm
You may send also your resume to ba.recruitment@axa.com.ph
For Inquires, call (02) 885 0101 loc 1238 or (02) 887 2079

AXA LIFE INSURANCE & INVESTMENTS
Metrobank Group

Be Life Confident

Television and Production Exponents, Inc. (TAPE Inc.)
is in need of the following:

CAMERAMAN
1. Male
2. Not over 30 years old
3. With experience in TV Production
4. Graduate of a Reputable School

CCU MAN
1. Male
2. Not over 30 years old
3. With experience in TV Production
4. Graduate from a Reputable School and Holder of ECE License

LIGHTING DIRECTOR
1. Preferably with experience in production

HR/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
1. Graduate of BS Psychology or related course
2. With previous experience

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT/ SEGMENT PRODUCER
1. Preferably with experience in production
2. Graduate of AB Broadcast Communication or related course

Please submit or hand-carry your resumé at the address below:

Television and Production Exponent Inc. (TAPE Inc.)
79 Xavierville Subd., Xavierville Ave., Loyola Heights, Q.C.

APAC Customer Services, Inc.
Your success begins with us.

APAC is opening exciting opportunities to more than 600 Inbound Customer Service Representatives, to be based in its Araneta Center and Alabang work sites. For starters, we provide competitive salaries commensurate to experience; night differential; performance-based incentives and rewards; meal and transportation allowances; and health and life insurance.

But more than these, we think about your future. Successful candidates can look forward to comprehensive training and development programs, aggressive advancement, and activities that ensure an enriching work environment. It's more than just a job. It's a career.

We're on the lookout for driven, analytical people with excellent oral and written communication skills, good typing skills, and computer literate. CSR applicants should have completed at least 2 years of college or any 2-year vocational course. *Previous customer service experience is a plus.* If you possess any of the above characteristics, please come to our *OPEN HOUSE on September 3 to September 7, 2007 at APAC, Araneta Center, Cubao and APAC, Northgate Cyberzone, Alabang.*

Welcome to
TEAMAPAC

Jon Mahrt
Regional VP for Operations

JOB OPENINGS
Inbound Customer Service Representatives
Spanish Speaking Representatives
*Regional VP for Human Resources
*Operations Directors
*Spanish Speaking Quality Analyst
*Business Analyst
*Workforce Managers
*Project Managers
*Central Quality Analysts
*Quality Manager

*Non-CSR positions are by appointment
*Applicants with SSS number and NBI clearance will be given priority

For Cubao applicants:
Cyber Park Building 1, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City
Telephone Number : 6678224

For Alabang applicants:
Plaza C, Northgate Cyberzone, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Telephone Number : 7576563

Email : recruitment@apacmail.com

Successful candidates who can start on or before September 7 will get the chance to WIN *I-pod, mobile phones* and *consolation prizes*!!!

Our client, **Bayan Telecommunications**
is in need of the following positions:

TELEMARKETERS

Role: Able to sell phone subscriptions via the telephone

Requirements:
- Should have interest in selling
- Good oral communications skills
- College graduate

Customer Service Representatives

Role: Able to answer phone-in inquiries of clients about the products and services of Bayan Telecommunications

Telecollection Agents

Role: Able to remind phone subscribers on their billing payments.

Requirements:
- Good oral communication skills
- Computer literate on excel
- College graduate

For those who are up to the challenge may apply by sending their resumé to jcerecruit@gmail.com or may drop their resumé at our office address:

Rm. 217 2nd Floor JIAO Building,
Timog corner Quezon Avenue,
Barangay Paligsahan, Quezon City

PR, Events & Production
Operational Activations & Promotions
Promo Sales & Staff Deployment

Graphic, Audio & Video Arts
Edia Concepts and Creatives
Non-Traditional Advertising

KEY ACCOUNTS PROJECT COORDINATOR

The position is responsible to lead, supervise, coordinate and monitor the execution of a continuing consumer loyalty program involving trade accounts nationwide.

Qualifications:
• Project management experience in the field of fast-moving consumer goods, supermarket or retail chain distribution preferred • Pro-active, has strong initiative, solutions-finder, hard working and trustworthy • Results-oriented, can work with minimal supervision, with strong leadership skills • Male/female, 20 to 30 years old • Graduate of any four-year course from a reputable school, preferably business-related • Excellent written & oral communication & presentation skills • Excellent inter-personal skills, people and service-oriented • Computer literacy in Microsoft windows programs • Willing to travel to different parts of the country

ASSOCIATE MARKETING COUNSELOR (AMC)

Qualifications:
• male/female, preferably not over 30 years old • to do account servicing work • graduate of any marketing or business course • adept in marketing conceptualization, planning & execution • computer literacy in Microsoft windows program • organized and can work with minimum supervision • proficient in oral and written communication • willing to go on local travel • preferably can drive

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Qualifications:
• female, preferably not more than 25 years old • fresh graduate of marketing communication or business course • to coordinate all units' account activation • adept to details • highly flexible and a team player • hardworking, trustworthy, responsible • proficient in English, both in oral and written communications • with professional attitude • pleasing and flexible personality • computer literate • with exceptional office and administration skills • organized

These are immediate requirements.
Please send or bring your comprehensive resume, transcript and recent 1x1 photo to:

HR & Admin.
Executive Decisions Integrated Marketing Communications Firm (EDIMC'F)
3rd Floor, Doña Segunda Building, 113 Kamuning Road, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 413-6436; 426-4845; 448-5396

Application forms sent thru e-mail and fax shall not be entertained

---

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

JOBMarket

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

Save the Children

Save the Children US is a non-government organization and one of the leading international development organizations in the world. The mission of Save the Children is to create lasting, positive change in the lives of disadvantaged children and adolescents. Save the Children is a non-political non-religious international organization that pride itself on independence and neutrality.

Save the Children Philippines Country Office (SC PhCO) has been operating in the Philippines for over 25 years with sponsorship program with the aim of providing child-focused programs in the areas of education, health and nutrition to children in need, their families and respective communities. SC PhCO offices now covering West Visayas (Region VI – Iloilo, Antique, Guimaras), Metro Manila (Parañaque, Taguig and Las Piñas) and Mindanao through the recently opened office initially covering South Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat and eventually expanding to Saranggani. SC PhCO is also involved in various grant-funded projects in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and Central Mindanao. SC PhCO focuses on four priority results: 1) Children are protected from harm through physical and psychosocial assistance; 2) Children learn and develop with age-appropriate care and education; 3) Children are healthy and well-nourished, and 4) Children thrive in food secure and economically viable households

Save the Children, in preparation for the start of Cycle 4 of this program, is accepting applications for

Disaster Preparedness and Response (DPR) in Mindanao – Cycle 4

(September 2007–August 2008)
Based in Cotabato City

The goal of the DPR-Mindanao Program Cycle 4 is to reduce vulnerabilities to disaster risks and to increase protection for children and families in Mindanao particularly in the defined areas.

Program Technical Coordinator– For Small Grants Management and Partnering

(Code: DPR C4 PTC-SGM&P)

The DPR C4 PTC-SGM&P will report to the Project Manager and will be principally responsible for:

1. **Providing support to Small Grants Management**
   - Review submitted project proposals; conduct of on-site field validation and evaluate project feasibility consistent with DPR program framework and maximizing beneficiaries' benefits; submit assessment reports
   - Provide technical advice to small grantees on project implementation
   - Maintain sub-grant documents
2. **Providing support to the Mindanao Emergency Response Network (MERN)**
   - Support improvement of MERN-DPR project collaboration through PM/project effective and regular contact, consultation, information-sharing, meetings including providing technical assistance to the Project Manager
   - Provide technical advice on partnering options
   - Coordinate with geographic cluster conveners for updates and joint planning and implementation
3. **Monitoring and Evaluation**
   - Conduct field-level monitoring of small grant projects and formulate findings and analysis for appropriate action; conduct monitoring, evaluation and follow-through of SC-supported MERN activities
   - Submit periodic implementation plans; submit periodic activity updates, findings and analysis
4. **Contributing to Institutional Learning**
   - Contribute to organizational learning in sub-grant management, partnering, impact of work in communities
   - Assist in identifying partner development needs at individual (skills/knowledge) and organizational (systems and procedures) levels; Assist in identifying resources needed in meeting these development needs
5. **Maintaining Security and Safety**
   - Maintain running monitor of prevailing security conditions by gathering security-related information
   - Assist in ensuring security, safety, health and well-being measures are in place for Cotabato-based and visiting staff and visitors and that security standards and procedures are strictly adhered to
6. Providing support partnering opportunities with LGUs, government agencies, NGOs, other stakeholders
7. Providing support to other project management and operations e.g. conceptualization, providing technical skills

Competencies and Qualification Requirements: (in addition to Core Competencies): substantial experience on program cycle and project management; creative and proactive contribution in defining strategic initiatives for the program and the project organization; effective on-site interaction skills with targeted communities and partners

Administration / Finance Assistant

(Code: DPR C4 - AFA)

The DPR C4 AFA will report on a daily and operational basis to the Project Administration and Finance Officer (AFO) who in turn reports operationally to the Project Manager and functionally to the Deputy Country Director Finance and Administration at the National Office. This post will cover the areas of basic financial records keeping, support in disbursements, document maintenance, handing incoming-outgoing communications, office upkeep and logistics.

Specifically, the position will be responsible for providing:

1. Support to financial systems and operations
   - Processing disbursement transactions from initial checking of documents relating to cash advances, liquidation reports, and other disbursements; to preparing checks; ensuring timely payment of bills and monthly remittances
   - Maintaining voucher registers (disbursements, cash receipts, general journal)
   - Handle as directed, deposit of funds to SC / staff payroll accounts
   - Serve as petty cash custodian, ensuring proper use, recording and replenishment
2. Support to administration
   - Handles: supplies and materials procurement / custody / recording; document filing and maintenance; incoming/outgoing communications and parcels
3. Support to Programs
   - Provide administrative / logistical / communication support to Program staff for MERN-related activities
   - Program document filing and maintenance
   - Procurement of construction materials, essential non-food items (NFI); logistical assistance to WASH component; support NFI stockpile if required including storage arrangement and overall stock area cleanliness
4. Support to Institutional Learning and Development
   - Assist in gathering lessons and insights in administration/finance aspects of program management; in gathering feedback from partners on program operation
5. Support to Staff Security
   - Assist in ensuring safety and security relevant to finance and administration; assist in gathering security information

Competencies and Qualification Requirements: (in addition to Core Competencies): Concern for accuracy, Respect for Confidentiality, Time management, Accounting, Analytical skills, Basic computer skills, Compliance, Awareness of allied organizations, Company knowledge

Core Competencies: Accountability, Integrity, Development Orientation, Child-centeredness, Teamwork, Transparency, Passion for Excellence, and Results Orientation.

Qualified applicants may send their resumes
By email (preferred): HR_Recruitment@savechildren.org (please indicate respective position code)
By ordinary mail – Save the Children Federation, Inc.
(No. 1 Encarnacion St. corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila (Fax 632-853-0215)

CCF PHILIPPINES

An International NGO Working for the Well-Being of Children

MICRO-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Job Description:

Responsible for the provision of technical support in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CCF micro-enterprise development programs in the country ensuring long-term solutions to child poverty and adversity and quality impact for the well-being of children. The MED Specialist also contributes to the resource generation efforts of CCF through the conceptualization and submission of project proposals on micro-enterprise development for grant financing.

Qualifications:

- University degree in Social Science or related field
- At least three years experience in micro-enterprise development work
- Skills in Project Design and Management, Partnerships development, Technical Writing particularly on proposal development and market linkaging are required
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrates a high level of interpersonal and cross-cultural skills
- Can work with minimal supervision and perform effectively under pressure
- A good grasp of children's issues at national and global levels a distinct advantage
- Willingness to travel to project areas

HEALTH DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

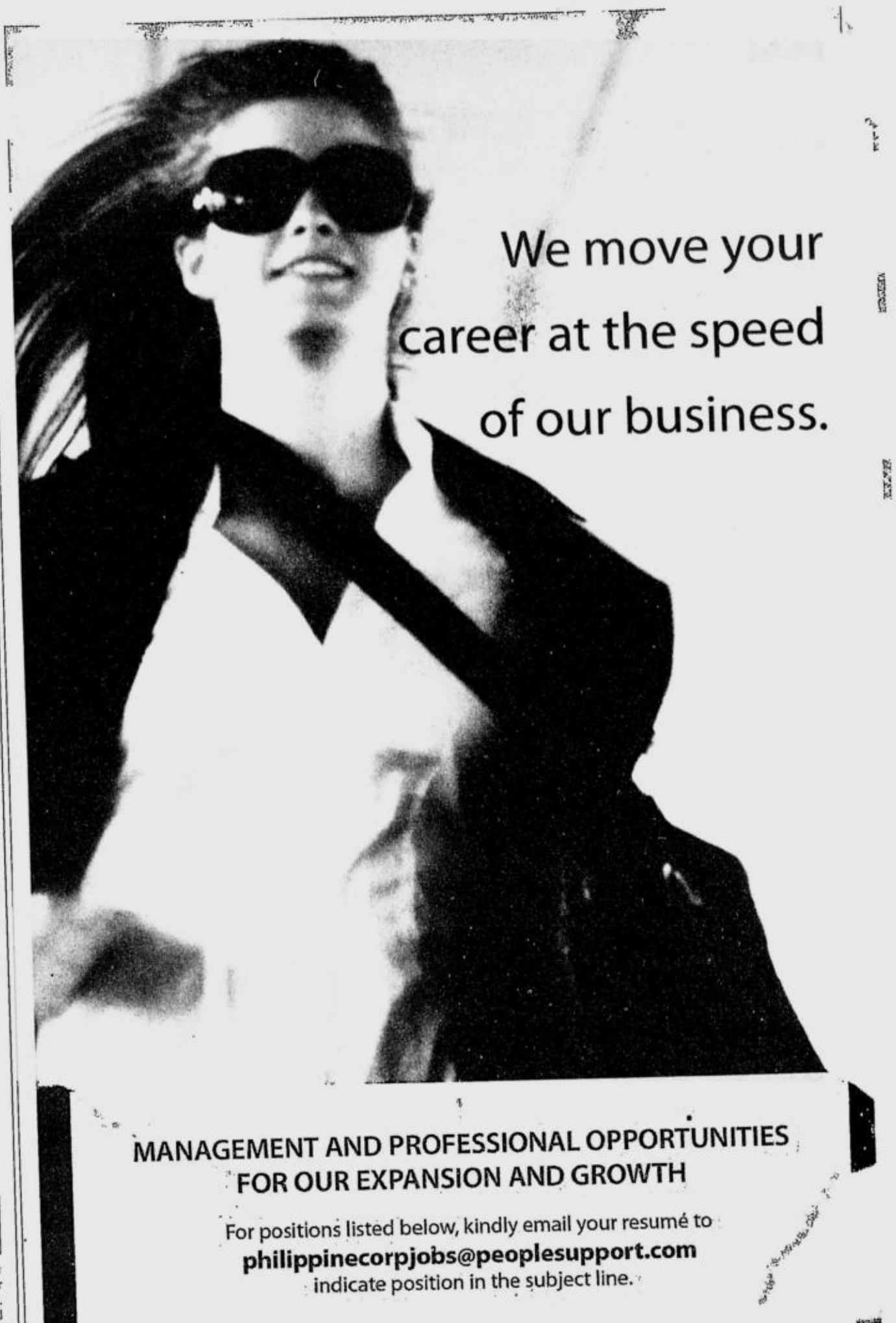
Job Description:

Responsible for the provision of technical support in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CCF health and nutrition programs in the country ensuring long-term solutions to child poverty and adversity and quality impact for the well being of children and their communities. He/She also contributes to the resource generation efforts of CCF through the conceptualization and submission of project proposals on health and nutrition for grant financing.

Qualifications:

- University degree in Nutrition, Public Health or related field
- At least three years experience in development work and program management cycle; involvement in community-based health and nutrition programs/projects
- Skills in Project Design and Management, Partnerships development, Technical Writing particularly on proposal development for Health and Nutrition
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Demonstrates a high level of interpersonal and cross-cultural skills
- Can work with minimal supervision and perform effectively under pressure
- A good grasp of children's issues at national and global levels a distinct advantage
- Willingness to travel to project areas

Interested applicants may send their application letter addressing the position criteria outlined here together with a detailed Curriculum Vitaé with 3 references and contact details to **ccfno@ccfphilippines.org.ph** not later than September 6, 2007. Due to the volume of applications we receive, we shall contact short listed applicants only.



MANAGEMENT AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR EXPANSION AND GROWTH

For positions listed below, kindly email your resumé to
philippinecorpjobs@peoplesupport.com
indicate position in the subject line.

FINANCE
Senior Officer, Finance and Purchasing (Cebu)
Accounting Officer
Timekeeping Officer
Risk Managament Officer
Revenue Analyst
Systems Accountant Analyst
Billing Specialist
Payroll Specialist
Timekeeping Assistant (Manila/Cebu)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Data Quality Manager
System Server Specialist (Cebu)
Lead QA Tester
Software Tester
Desktop Supervisor
Senior Business System Analyst
Reports Developer
HRIS Administrator/System Administrator

TRAINING
Client Specific Trainer, Financial (Cebu)
Client Specific Trainer, Health Care (Cebu)
Organizational Development Trainer (Davao)
Organizational Development Trainer (Cebu)

ADMINISTRATION AND FACILITIES
Office Manager (Baguio)
Safety and Security Associate (Baguio/Manila)
Facilities Associate (Baguio)

OPERATIONS
Team Supervisor for Technical Account (Cebu)
Team Supervisor for Travel Account (Manila)
Transcription Editor (Baguio)
Team Manager for Transcription Account (Baguio)

HUMAN RESOURCES
Organization Development Officer
Career Development (Manila)
HR Associate-Employee Relations
HR Officer- Employee Relations
Recruitment Associate
Internal Communications Assistant for Creative Media (Manila)

Makati City
PeopleSupport Center
Ayala cor. Sen. Gil Puyat Avenues
Monday to Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday, 9:00am to 3:00pm
HR Hotline: (02) 755-2600
manilajobs@peoplesupport.com

Baguio City
PeopleSupport Baguio
SM Fiesta Strip Building,
Harrison Road, Baguio City
baguiojobs@peoplesupport.com

Cebu City
PeopleSupport Cebu
e-Office 1, AsiaTown IT Park
Monday to Saturday,
9:00am to 5:00pm
HR Hotline: (032) 234-8222
cebu@peoplesupport.com

Davao City
B-1 Luisa Avenue Square, Jacinto Extension
Monday to Friday,
9:00am to 6:00pm
HR Hotline: (082) 227-9301
davaojobs@peoplesupport.com

www.peoplesupport.com

PEOPLESUPPORT

PALAFOX ASSOCIATES the only Filipino firm in the Top 200 Architecture firms and the world with ISO 9001: 2000 (Quality Management) and ISO 14001 : 2004 (Environmental Management) certification from TUV of Germany for Architecture, Urban Planning, Master Planning, Interior Design, Engineering and Landscape Architecture with projects in 30 countries invites professionals, graduates, ladies & gentlemen to fill the following positions:

* SENIOR ARCHITECTS SENIOR PROJECT COORDIANTORS
- LICENSED ARCHITECT
- Must have at least 8 yrs. work experience in detailing and construction drawing
- Must be 30 – 40 yrs. old
- Proficient in AUTOCADD

* ARCHITECTS/ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNERS/ RENDERERS
- With at least 5 yrs. work experience
- Male/Female, Architecture graduate
- Proficient in AUTO CADD
- Proficient in Manual drawing presentations

* URBAN/MASTER ENVIROMENTAL PLANNERS
- LICENSED ARCHITECT/LICENSED ENVIRONMENTAL/URBAN PLANNER advantage
- Male/female, 25 – 40 yrs. old
- Knowledge of AUTO CADD, Presentation, Design concept
- With Planning & Business orientation skills

* LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
- Male/female, 25 years old & above
- Must have at least 5 years work experience
- Creative in conceptualization
- Can prepare plans from Design to Construction drawings
- Proficient in AUTO CADD/COREL/ADOBE PHOTOSHOP and other Architectural software
- Good in Technical writing
- Can present and coordinate with clients

* ENGINEERS specialized in:
Transportation/Traffic & Highways, Roads and Bridges Engineering, Coastal development, River Wall, Flood Control and Slope Protection and Land/Route Surveying, Sanitary, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Environmental, Topographic Survey, Geotechnical Traffic Control, Power Supply, Waste Water/Water Supply, Project Management

- Must be Licensed depending on the description of work
- Graduates in Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Sanitary Engineering, Masteral/Post graduate Degree in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Sanitary Engineering
- At least 27 years old and above
- At least with 5 years experience in similar projects undertaken
- Can work under pressure and has the capability to withstand different situation in the office and/or job site
- With good reputation and can deal with different kind of people
- Very good communication skills in English, Chinese, Arabic, Spanish and other languages an advantage

* STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
- Must be LICENSED CIVIL ENGINEER, 27 years old & above
- Must have at least 3 years work experience in the following trades:
  - A. Structural Design using
    - a.1 Manual Calculations
    - a.2 Knowledge of STAAD, ETABS, RCD SAFE, etc.
  - B. Quantity Cost Estimation
  - C. Structural Detailing
- Must be at least 25 years old & above
- Knowledge of AUTOCADD would be an advantage
- Must be member of ASEP
- Specialized in Structural Engineering accredited by the PICE

* PROFESSIONAL ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
- Must be PROFESSIONAL Electrical Engineer
- Preferably Male, 30 years old & above
- Knowledge in MS Excel
- Experienced in Horizontal and Vertical designs
- Knowledge of Construction supervision, monitoring and project implementation
- Knowledge of Electrical works evaluation

* SPECIFICATION WRITERS
- Male/Female, 25-35 years old, BS Architecture graduate
- With knowledge in Construction materials and estimates
- Computer literate

* 3D DESIGNERS
- Knowledgeable in 3D Autocad/ 3D VIZ/ Corel Draw/ Photopaint/ Photoshop
- Male/Female, Architecture graduate
- Can work as a team player
- Ability to interpret and convert 2D Freehand drawings into 3 dimensional models for design development and evaluation
- Has the ability to make quick 3 dimensional design for difficult architectural types

* CADD DESIGNERS/OPERATORS
- With at least 3 years experience
- Male/Female, BS Architecture graduate
- Proficient in AUTO CADD

* URBAN DESIGNERS
- Male or female, BS Architecture and/or Landscape Architecture graduate (post graduate degree/diploma in Urban will be an advantage
- With at least 2-3 years related work experience
- Computer literate (CADD, Adobe Photoshop, Corel Draw 12 or other related computer generated presentation skills will be an advantage
- Has good communication skills

* SENIOR INTERIOR DESIGNERS
For Hotels, luxury apartments, sports/golf clubs, restaurants, schools, hospital, churches
- Must have at least 10 years work experience in an Interior design
- Skilled in making and rendering Interior - perspectives
- Knowledgeable in AUTOCADD & Corel Draw program
- Experience in working drawings and Interior detailing

* SANITARY ENGINEERS
- Preferably male, 30 years old & above
- Must be LICENSED SANITARY ENGINEER with at least 8 years experience in design and supervision
- Knowledge of AUTOCADD & other Engineering software an advantage

* CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS (Project In Charge)
- Licensed ENGINEER/ARCHITECT with at least 15 years experience in Construction Management
- 35 years old & above
- Supervisory experience would be an advantage

* PROFESSIONAL MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
- Must be Professional Mechanical Engineer
- Preferably male, 30 years old & above
- Experienced in Horizontal & Vertical designs
- With knowledge in Mechanical work evaluation
- Knowledge of Fire protection piping system
- Knowledgeable in MS Excel & other engineering software

* PLANNING/SCHEDULING ENGINEERS
- Must be LICENSED ENGINEER/ARCHITECT with at least 10 years work experience in planning/scheduling of major horizontal & building projects
- With high proficiency in planning and preparing schedule programs for project execution, monitoring and progress review
- Must be computer literate (CADD/MS Office)
- Male/female, 27 years and above

* QUANTITY SURVEYORS
- Must be LICENSED CIVIL ENGINEER
- Must have at least 5 years experience in Cost Estimation and Quantity Surveying
- Knowledge of construction supervision, project monitoring and implementation is a must
- Knowledge in AUTOCADD, MS Office and PRIMAVERA or Microsoft Project Planner will be an advantage
- Male/Female, 25-30 years old

* ADMINISTRATION/OFFICE STAFF/EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
- Female 22-30 years old
- Business college graduate
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Proficient in MS Office applications
- Highly organized and efficient, can work under pressure
- With pleasing personality

The above applicants/candidates must be:
- Honest with Integrity
- Hardworking - can work long hours and on
- Can work with pressure/sense of urgency
- Articulate in English and possess excellent oral and written communication skills
- Knowledge of Arabic, Persian, Vietnamese, German, French, Italian and Chinese would be an advantage but not required.

Firms in Structural, Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing/Sanitary Engineering, Fire Protection, Telecommunications, Building Management Systems, Project/Construction Management, Surveying/Geodetic Engineering to collaborate with us in various local and international projects.

We also invite graduating students as Apprentice/On-the-Job Trainees for the following:

Architecture	Regional Planning	Structural Engineering	Building Management System
Interior Design	Environmental Planning	Electrical Engineering	Advertising, Fine Arts
Urban Design	Landscape Architecture	Mechanical Engineering	Graphic Design
Urban Planning	Civil Engineering	Plumbing/Sanitary Engineering	Telecommunications

Applicants for Apprentice from the Top 10% of their class and deans list of the graduating class with creative design skills are preferred.

Interested applicants may send their resumé personally or through fax, e-mail with recent 2x2 picture, a copy of Transcript of records, passport and NBI clearance to the address below indicating the position applied for:

Palafox Associates Human Resource Unit look for Ma. Concepcion S. Valero or Rubiliza A. Mendoza
9/F JAKA 6780 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel. Nos. (02) 812-12-54 to 55; 817-41-50 fax no (02) 893-91-97
e-mail: jobs@palafoxassociates.com
website: http://www.palafoxassociates.com

WE'VE GOT THE JOB FOR YOU...

We will help you find your **MATCH** with the following available **JOB CATEGORIES!!!**

ACCOUNTING/FINANCE – Accounts Payable/Receivable Assistant, Auditor, Bank Reconciliation Assistant, Billing Assistant, Bookkeeper, Credit and Collection Assistant, Cost Accountant, General Accountant, Payroll Assistant, Treasury Assistant, Finance Assistant

CLERICAL/ADMINISTRATIVE – Administrative Assistant, Office Clerk, Data Encoder/Processor, Executive Assistant, Secretary, Office Administrator, Credit Assistant, Purchasing Assistant

COMMUNICATION – Public Affairs Communication Assistant, Corporate Communication Assistant, Events Coordinator

CUSTOMER SERVICE – Front Desk Receptionist, Receptionist Supervisor, Customer Care Representative, Telephone/Admin Receptionist, Customer Advisor, Customer Support Executive

ENGINEERING/ARCHITECTURE – Architect, CADD Operator, Project Engineer, Civil Engineer, Construction Engineer, Estimator, Sanitary Engineer, Customer Service Engineer, Mechanical Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Industrial Engineer, Supply Chain Assistant, Data Analyst, Business Process Assistant

HUMAN RESOURCES – HR Compensation and Benefits, Employee Relations, Recruitment Assistant, Training/Development, Organizational Development, Technical Recruiter, Psychometricians

INSURANCE – Agents, Claims Processor, Underwriting Clerk

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – Desktop Support/Network Administrator, Lotus Notes Administrator, PL/SQL Programmers, Software Developer/Programmer, Technical Support, Web Designer/Developer, Graphic Artist, Technical Writer, I.T. Helpdesk, I.T. Encoder, VB.Net Programmer, Audio/Visual Technicians

MANUFACTURING/OPERATIONS – Machine Operators, Production Operators

PHARMACEUTICAL/MEDICAL – Lab Technicians, Pharmacist, Medical Encoders, Clinical Research Assistant, Company Nurse, Medical Secretary

HOTEL/RESTAURANT/FOOD SERVICE – Service Crew, Waiters, Busboys, Cook, Bartenders, Butchers, Bakers, Kitchen Helpers, Steward, Food Attendant

RETAIL – Retails Sales Coordinator, Outlet Sales Supervisor, Store Sales Assistant, Cashiers, Merchandisers, Promodiser

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS – Library Clerks, Registrar Clerk, Attendance Checker,

SALES and MARKETING – Account Executives, Sales Engineers, Sales Representative, Telemarketers, Field Sales Coordinator, Corporate Sales

TELECOMMUNICATION – Project Engineers, Network Technicians, Schedulers, Project Assistants, Field Technicians Test Engineers, Lineman

TRANSPORTATION/LOGISTICS – Drivers, Courier, Operations Agents,Warehouse Clerk, Warehouse Assistants, Forklift Operators

SEARCHERS & STAFFERS CORP

3/F THE LYDIA BUILDING,
#39 POLARIS ST., BEL-AIR MAKATI CITY
TEL. 896-7213/896-6992/896-0527 • FAX: 896-0501
E-mail Address: slsearchcorp@pldtdsl.net
Visit our web site at: www.slsearch.com

SL TEMPS

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- College degree holder
- Must have the passion & enthusiasm to pursue a career in sales
- With pleasing personality & with good negotiation skills
- Prior experience in Sales an advantage
- Proficient in computer softwares & networking applications a plus
- Not more than 30 years old

CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICERS
- College degree holder
- Must have strong interest to do fieldwork and interact with corporate clients
- With pleasing personality & good communication skills
- Must be assertive and results-oriented

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES *(OFFICE FURNITURE)*
- Graduate of Architecture, Interior Design or any business course
- With excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Must be assertive and self-motivated
- Not more than 30 years old

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR / ACCOUNTANT / AUDITOR
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant
- With at least 2 years work experience in General Accounting or Audit
- Must be resourceful, analytical and results oriented
- Experience in brokerage an advantage

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT / ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Must be proficient in computer applications
- Must be analytical and keen to details
- Must be self-motivated, responsible and can work long hours
- Not more than 28 years old

COLLECTION OFFICER
- Graduate of any business course
- Must have at least 1 year work experience
- With good interpersonal skills
- Must be fit to do field work
- Preferably residents of Quezon City, Pasig, Mandaluyong and Makati
- Male 22-28 years old

SOFTWARE ENGINEER
- Graduate of any computer related course
- With at least 2 years work experience
- Must have the dedication & competence for intensive training
- Proficient in computer software & networking applications
- Willing to travel & extend long working hours
- Must be assertive
- Ability to deal w/ other people

SERVICE ENGINEERS
- Graduates in any of the following fields: BS Electrical Engineering, BS Electronic Communication Engineering and BS Computer Engineering
- Must have the dedication and competence for intensive training
- Work exposure in an office equipment business environment, a definite advantage
- Male, not more than 25 years old

Didie / Cathy / Donna
Human Resources Department
Trunk Line: 897-6819 loc. 107 / 151
Direct Line: 899-6439
Email: hrd@ubix.com.ph
Website: www.ubix.com.ph
Main Office:
1344 Angono St. Makati City, Philippines

UBX
U-BIX CORPORATION
33 YEARS OF SERVICE

TÜV SÜD ISO 9001

FUJITSU

FUJITSU COMPUTER PRODUCTS CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

FACILITIES SUPERVISOR
- Graduate of Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, preferably licensed
- Will be in charge of the operation and maintenance of power plants, auxiliary and electrical distribution system
- Must have at least 3 years of related work experience in a supervisory capacity
- Must have good judgment and leadership ability

TRAINING OFFICER
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Organization Development or Development Communication or related business course
- At least 3 years related work experience in the same capacity
- Knowledgeable in conducting training needs analysis, designing and facilitating competency-based training
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Proficient in MS office applications

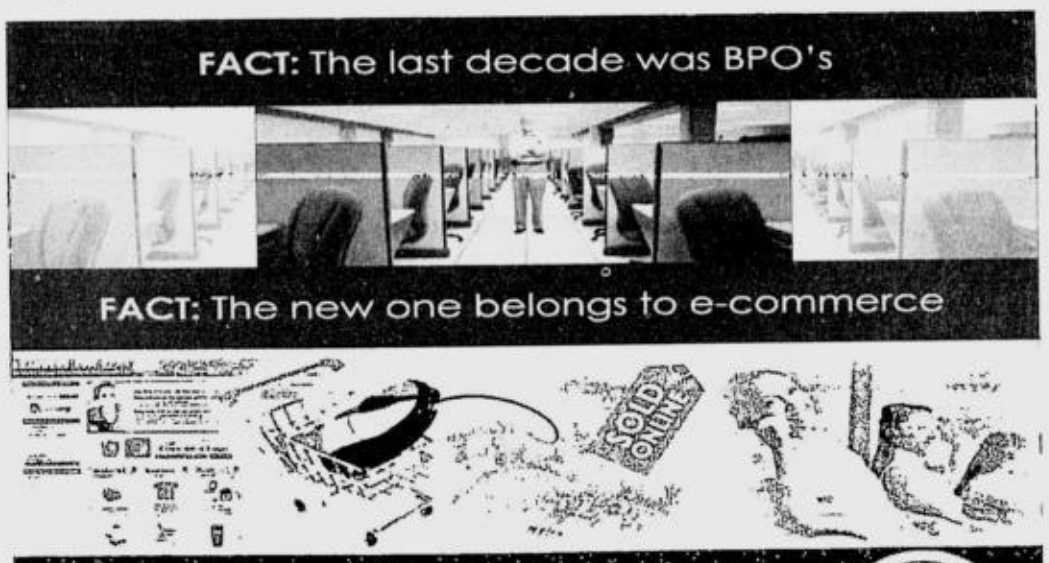
COMPANY NURSE
- Will be responsible for the curative, palliative, preventive, rehabilitative and administrative aspects of employees' health care
- Graduate of BS Nursing, licensed
- Must be service-oriented and willing to work on shifts
- Must be proficient in Windows applications

ASSOCIATE ENGINEERS (BATCH 2006 & 2007 GRADUATES)
- Mechanical, Electrical, Electronics and Communications (with or without license), Computer and Industrial Engineering graduates
- Good communication skills
- Should possess leadership qualities, are team-players and hardworking
- Must be willing to work on shifts

ASSISTANTS
- Graduates of psychology or any business course
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, including report writing
- Good analytical ability
- Proficient in MS office applications

TECHNICIANS
- Graduates of Computer, Electrical or Electronics, Mechanical, Electromechanical, and Instrumentation Technology courses
- New graduates or not more than 1 year experience in machine maintenance and troubleshooting

Fujitsu Computer Products is a leading manufacturer of hard disk drives. After ten years of commercial operations, we now have 6,000 employees. We were inducted into PEZA's Top Employer Hall of Fame by being the Top Employer for the years 1997 to 1999. To know more about the company, you can visit us at www.ph.fujitsu.com/fcpp. Successful candidates will be based in Canlubang, Laguna. Shuttle buses to and from the site are available for Metro Manila residents. Please send your resumes to: The Vice President, HR & General Affairs Department, Fujitsu Computer Products Corporation of the Philippines, SEPZ, Carmelray Industrial Park, Canlubang, Calamba, Laguna, or email to: recruit@fcpp.fujitsu.com or you may also apply personally in business attire, Mondays to Fridays at 9 AM.
PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY



Why spend time honing skills of the past?
The times have changed.
Have you?

Join us and be prepared for the future.

contact us at 637-1574 loc. 3288 PPAI BRANDERS.COM® The World's Largest Online Seller of Promotional Items

30F Unionbank Plaza, Meralco Ave. corner Onyx Rd. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605

More employment opportunities in today's JOB MARKET.
Every Sunday with the INQUIRER
JOB Market Part 1 Where You Find The Best.

INQUIRER iBRe
Advertise in JobMarket Libre
JOB Market Find a career in here
Inquire about the JobMarket package at 897-8808 loc 514.

BE > THINK > INNOVATE >

With more than 60 years of experience in the pump technology business, the name Grundfos is synonymous with high quality, efficient and reliable pumping solutions in commercial and domestic markets.
Due to our expansion plan, we seek dynamic and relentless individual to fill the positions below.

Sales Engineer (1)

CHALLENGES
Your main challenge is achieving the sales target of the designated market/product and promoting the Company's products to various levels of customers and achieving the sales quota assigned. You will need to establish good rapport with the customers, advise and update clients on products' applications knowledge and recommend appropriate pump system solutions. This includes pre-sales work such as quotations and system calculations as well as following up on billing and debt collections and handling of the designated Dealer's accounts.

YOUR BACKGROUND
You should possess a diploma or degree in Mechanical Engineering. You should have 2-3 years' technical sales experience in wastewater pump business, preferably with good knowledge of pumping system.

At least 25-35 years old, pro-active and resourceful individual, who possesses excellent negotiation, communication and motivation skills. You must also be computer literate, willing to be trained and to travel (local and abroad).

Service Engineer (1)

CHALLENGES
Your main challenge is to provide and ensure that the Company's service functions meet the Company's quality standard. Assist in monitoring that engineering procedures are properly implemented thereby, meeting customer's requirement. You will need to supervise all on-going service works to ensure the work is executed as scheduled according to specifications and that the customer's requirements are met.

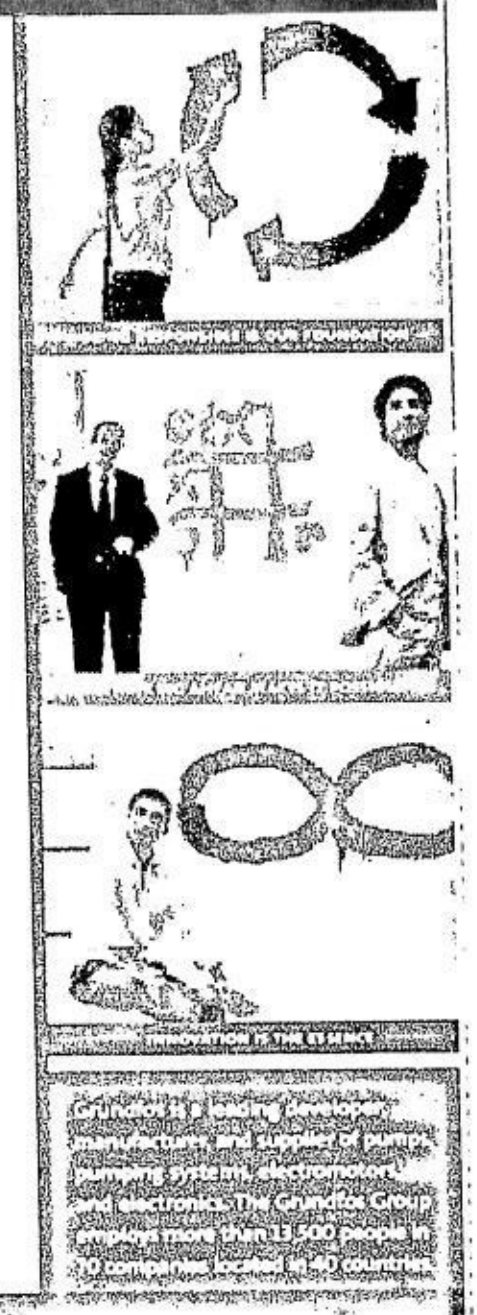
YOUR BACKGROUND
You should possess a diploma or degree in Mechanical/ Electrical Engineering or any related technical field. With 2-3 years' relevant working experience, preferably electro-mechanical.

At least 25-35 years old, pro-active and resourceful individual, who possesses excellent communication and motivation skills. You must also be computer literate, willing to be trained and to travel (local and abroad).

Accountant

CHALLENGES
- Manage the day-to-day operations of the Accounting Department
- Prepare financial statements and management reports including budgets and forecasts for the Company
- Work with team to establish and implement accounting and financial policies and procedures to ensure compliance with accounting standards and Group financial policies
- Support Group Finance in business and operational matters
- Credit control, tax and cash management
- Participate in system implementation and upgrade
- Liaise with external auditors, bankers, legal and tax advisors on all related matters

YOUR BACKGROUND
- Degree in Accountancy or equivalent professional qualification
- Minimum 3-5 years in professional audit and accounting experience
- Knowledge of international accounting/taxation/ transfer pricing/cross-border transactions, financial modeling, SCALA/SAP and Microsoft desktop tools
- Hands-on experience in consolidation preparation and statutory reporting
- Strong analytical, communication and interpersonal skills
- Organized and meticulous
- Proficient in MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint
- Willingness and ability to perform detailed tasks
- Occasional overseas travel is required
- Strong analytical, communication and interpersonal skills
- Organized and meticulous
- Proficient in MS Excel, Word and Powerpoint
- Willingness and ability to perform detailed tasks
- Occasional overseas travel is required



FURTHER INFORMATION
Contact us to learn more about your career opportunities with Grundfos. Please send your application with 2x2 ID picture and relevant enclosure to:

THE MANAGER
GRUNDFOS PUMPS (PHILIPPINES), INC.

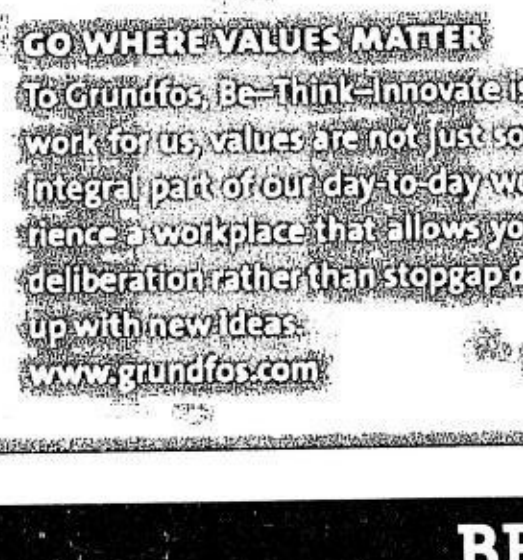
Tel. Nos. : (02) 840-2300 loc. 102/813-1547
Fax No. : (02) 813-1548
E-Mail : jdavid@grundfos.com

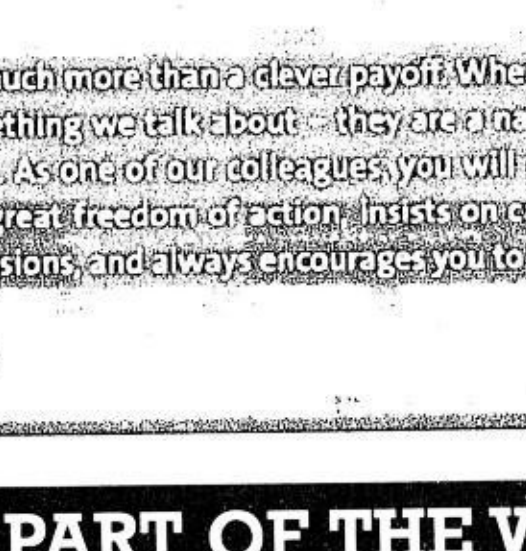
No. 2308 Natividad I Building, Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City 1231, PHILIPPINES

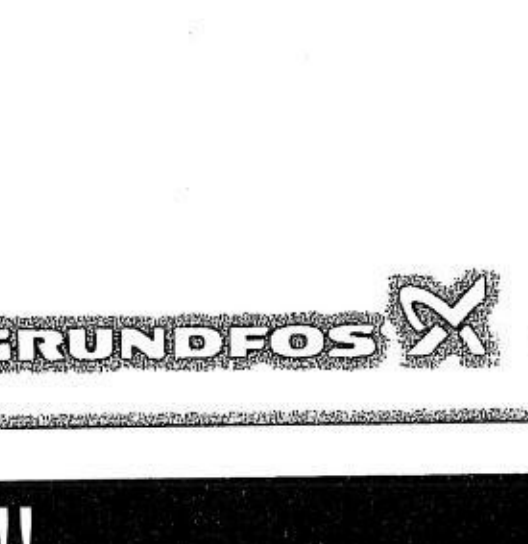
GO WHERE VALUES MATTER
To Grundfos, Be-Think-Innovate is much more than a clever payoff. When you work for us, values are not just something we talk about – they are a natural, integral part of our day-to-day work. As one of our colleagues, you will experience a workplace that allows you great freedom of action, insists on careful deliberation rather than stopgap decisions, and always encourages you to come up with new ideas.
www.grundfos.com

GRUNDFOS

BE PART OF THE WINNING TEAM !!!
Are you IN or OUT?







If you are creative, resourceful, energetic, confident, competitive and want the chance to EARN MILLIONS YEARLY, then join us as a:

PROPERTY CONSULTANT(S)

Responsibilities:
- Will market and sell vertical residential properties (condominiums)
- Sources clients and follow up on sales inquiries
- Provides impeccable & personalized service to all clients

Requirements:
- Male or Female, 22 to 32 years old, single or married
- Graduate of any four-year course from a reputable school
- Possesses excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Sales experience preferred but not required
- Has pleasing personality and can deal effectively with clients
- Willing to undergo extensive training
- Fresh graduates/ entry level applicants are welcome to apply

Attractive compensation package (monthly allowance plus commissions), continuous training program, fast paced career growth and exciting opportunities for unlimited income awaits successful candidates.

INCENTIVES: Possible trips to the U.S., Europe and Asia for proven closers.

ONE DAY RECRUITMENT for **PROPERTY CONSULTANT(S)** is scheduled on **Wednesday, September 5, 2007** from 10:00am to 4:00pm at the **6/F RFM Corporate Center Pioneer cor. Sheridan Sts., Mandaluyong City.**

Interested applicants may contact (02) 631-8101 loc 7433 or text (0917) 853-6539 c/o April Tani

SALES MANAGER(S)

Responsibilities :
- Responsible for leading and motivating in-house sales team to meet targeted sales quotas of the company
- Monitors and measures sales team activities such as sales forecasts, plans and targets
- Develops and implements sales strategies and conducts sales presentations
- Coordinates with Marketing group to identify plans and strategies for launching events and sales activities

Requirements:
- Must be a graduate of any four year business course
- Male or Female, not more than 35 years old
- Must have at least two (2) years sales supervisory or managerial experience
- Preferably has established network of property consultants or a sales team
- Must be goal oriented and possesses strong leadership skills
- Can execute sales programs
- With outstanding interpersonal and communication skills
- Has strong sales negotiations and motivation skills
- Must be flexible, results-driven and a team player
- Can work well under pressure
- Adept in computer applications

BROKER(S)

Responsibilities:
- Will market and sell Philtown residential properties
- Consistently meets or exceeds the target assigned

Requirements:
- Male or Female
- With proven track record in real estate sales
- Candidates must be flexible, aggressive, enterprising and a team player
- Must be customer focused and results- oriented
- Possesses excellent interpersonal and communication skills

Respondents are requested to send their resumes and recent 2x2 photo to the following addresses:

Via email : pti.hrd@philtown.com.ph
Via mail : (please indicate position on the envelope)

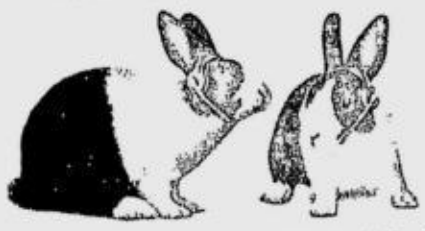
PHILTOWN HRD
4/F RFM Corporate Center
Pioneer cor. Sheridan Sts., Mandaluyong

PHILTOWN
Philtown Properties
Beyond condos, Landmarks.

Inquire about the JobMarket package at 897-8808 loc 514. Advertise in JobMarket Libre Find a career in here JOBMarket

Let's Talk Careers

Ambergris Solutions is a leading call centre in the Philippines, providing inbound customer care, outbound sales, technical support and business process outsourcing solutions to the utilities, IT, travel and hospitality and financial services industries.



Join our OPEN HOUSE in our Market! Market! site

MARKETING DATA STRATEGY PROFESSIONAL

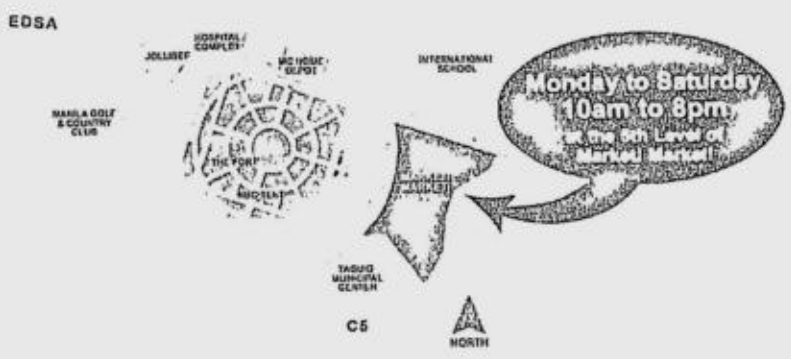
To be assigned in one of our expanding BPO accounts

JOB DESCRIPTION:
This high-profile role is tasked to work with North American clients to define and execute the data strategy in support of marketing programs through the strategic use of customer data warehouses and operational marketing systems. Functionally, the role involves consultation, translating business requirements to technical data specifications, communicating technical matters to the business users, as well as actual data extraction (e.g., segmentation, analysis, targeting, list selection, testing) to support the clients in achieving specific business objectives, and to improve the overall effectiveness of the clients' marketing and sales programs.

REQUIREMENTS:
- Bachelor's degree in any field (preferably I.T. or business-related course)
- Strong SQL and database skills, minimum 1-year SQL experience
- Minimum 1-year client services experience
- Ability to coach others and work on complex data stuctures using SQL
- Ability to understand business and marketing strategies
- Excellent communication and project management skills
- Customer focused; has business acumen
- Able to work independently as well as collaborate with a team (or teams)

MORE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Technical Support Representatives
- Customer Service Representatives for a Gaming account
- Inbound Associates for Domino's USA
- Inbound Customer Care Associates
- Inbound Sales Associates
- Recruitment Officers
- Team Captains
- Trainers
- Technical Support Analyst
- Reports Analyst
- Program Analyst
- Software Tester
- Quality Analysts
- QA Engineer
- Build Engineer
- Systems Administrator
- Compliance and Risk Manager
- Business Process and Implementation Manager
- Marketing Assistant



Enjoy competitive pay, performance incentives and bonuses, company-provided mobile phones, daily shuttle service, fun employee events and comprehensive training programs!

Visit our recruitment hubs
31/F Discovery Center, ADB Avenue Pasig City
Level 5 Market! Market! Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City
recruitment@ambergrissolutions.com
www.ambergrissolutions.com

ambergris

SM DEPARTMENT STORE

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANT

Responsible for providing prompt and efficient customer service to satisfy customer's needs and significantly contribute and maintain the Company's reputation.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Female; not over 25 years old
- Graduate of any 4 year course
- With good communication and interpersonal skills
- Flexible to be assigned to various areas which includes bills payment section and information booth; preferably knowledgeable in cashiering functions
- Trustworthy, patient and keen to details
- Personable and willing to be scheduled in support of retail hours

SALES ASSISTANT

Provides the highest level of customer service by demonstrating advanced product knowledge, excellent selling skills, builds quality customer relationships that result in increased sales for a specific outright brand or classification.

QUALIFICATIONS
- Female/Male, not over 28 years old
- Graduate of any 3 or 4 year course
- With at least 1 year selling experience
- Energetic, results oriented and keen to details
- With exceptional follow through and communication skills
- Personable and flexible to be scheduled in support of retail hours

Interested parties may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM at
HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT of any SM DEPARTMENT STORE or
RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT
Building D, SM Corporate Office SM Central Business Park, Bay City, Pasay City

Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

(Please bring comprehensive resume, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number / SSS Employment History printout plus original and photocopy of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

Futaba

FUTABA CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (FCP) is a Japanese Company and the world's pioneer in manufacturing Vacuum Fluorescent Displays (VFD). FCP is an ISO/TS16949:2002 and ISO 14001 certified electronics company

We are currently in need of highly competent individuals for the following positions:

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR
- Graduate of Any Engineering Course
- With at least 2 years experience as a Production Supervisor gained in a Japanese manufacturing company
- Knowledgeable in QS 9000 / TS 16949 requirements
- With above average communication skills and can deal with all levels of the organization

GENERAL AFFAIRS SUPERVISOR / STAFF
- Graduate of Any Business Course
- With at least 5 years experience in General Affairs functions gained in a Manufacturing set-up
- Knowledgeable in Safety Management / Environmental Management / PEZA Rules and Regulations
- Those with less than 5 years experience will be considered for staff position

SAFETY ENGINEER / SPECIALIST
- Graduate of Any Engineering Course
- With at least 5 years experience gained in a Manufacturing set-up, preferably Licensed Safety Practitioner

CADET ENGINEERS
- Licensed Engineers (ECE, ME, EE, ChE, IE)
- Not more than 30 years old
- Experience in Maintenance, Quality Assurance and other process-related task is an advantage

ACCOUNTING STAFF
- BS Accountancy graduate
- With at least 2 years experience in Accounting section, handling General Accounting and / or Cost Accounting functions gained in a Manufacturing set-up
- Proficient in MS Office Application
- CPA License is an advantage

TECHNICIANS
- Male, Not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of Technical-Vocational related course major in Electronics, Electrical and / or Electro-Mechanics
- Knowledgeable in machining (ex. Grinding, Milling, Lathe Machine)

OFFICE STAFF POSITION
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Not more than 26 years old
- With or without experience

Interested applicants may send their Resume with picture and Transcript of Records to:
Human Resource Department
Futaba Corporation of the Philippines
120 North Science Avenue, Laguna Technopark, Biñan Laguna
Or email at recruit@futaba.com.ph Or fax at (02)843-2898
Note: Please use position title as subject of your email. For snail mail, kindly indicate the position title on the lower left part of envelope

PIONEER SPECIALTY BUILDING SYSTEMS, INC.

A specialty contractor and a marketeer of Pioneer brand industrial adhesives is

Urgently need applicants for the position of:

DRAFTSMAN
- Male, between 25-35 years old
- Drafting course graduate
- With strong communication skills, computer literate
- With minimum of 1 year work experience in the same field
- Knowledge in AutoCADD system
- Knows how to drive is an advantage

GENERAL CLERK
- Female, between 21-28 years old
- Gradute of any four-year business course
- Computer literate, hardworking, with good academic records
- Good in oral and written communication
- Able to plan and coordinate multiple job functions

Qualified applicants are requested to submit or mail their Resumé with recent 2x2 picture, Academic Transcript of Records and other credentials to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
No. 7-B Balete Drive, New Manila, Quezon City
Tel. No. 414-1577 Fax No. 414-1578
Email Address: pioneersbsi@surfshop.net.ph

MAYNILAD WATER SERVICES, INC.

is in immediate need of:

SR. SECRETARY
- College graduate
- Not more than 28 years old
- With 1 year relevant experience
- Well-versed in MS Word, Excel, and Powerpoint
- Good in oral and written communication
- Can handle and keep confidential data
- With pleasing personality
- With integrity, reliable, industrious, organized and can work with minimum supervision

Qualified candidates can submit/e-mail letter of application, comprehensive resume w/ 2x2 photo ID, and transcript of records/diploma to:

Employment Administration, Personnel Services
Maynilad Water Services, Inc.
Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
Look for Cristy Santiago or Glenneth Magtalas
e-mail address: clsan@mayniladwater.com.ph
Tel. Nos.: 9254654 (DL) or 9205521 loc. 3084

Deadline for submission of applications: September 7, 2007

TRANSCONTAINER (TCL) PHILS, INC.

G/F TDG-NYK, Harbor Centre Bldg. I, Railroad cor. 23rd and 24th Sts., Port Area, Manila

"A Leading Integrated Logistics Service Provider"

We need two (2) Account Executives
- Preferably Marketing graduate or any business related course
- Preferably with minimum two (2) years experience in Sales/Marketing
- 25-35 years old
- Pleasing personality with driving skills
- Salary negotiable

For inquiries, please contact:
Admin Department

Trunkline : (632) 527-9888 loc. 318
Direct Line : 527-8780 / 527-7061
Website : http://www.tcl.com.ph

A proud member of: TRANSNATIONAL DIVERSIFIED GROUP

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

A company engaged in fabricating PVC Windows and Doors with facility located in Manila, is in need of highly skilled, goal-oriented and result-driven individuals with the corresponding qualification requirements and job responsibilities for the position:

SALES PARTNERS
- Salary with commission
- 3 years field sales experience in building and construction industry
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Preferably with engineering background
- Should be below 35 years of age
- Aggressive in nature
- Fair looking with good English speaking skills
- Probably with driver's license

Interested applicants may submit their resumé with certificates not later than September 15, 2007 at Rm. 805 State Center Bldg., 333 Juan Luna, Binondo, Mla. Look for Ms. Sylvia Delumen Tel. # 242-2721/242-2821 or send via e-mail-at portal_east@yahoo.com or cotanks@yahoo.com.

For Immediate Hiring

Marketing Head
- Graduate of any 4-year business course
- Must be good in English - both oral and written
- At least 5 years work experience

Personal Assistant
- With secretarial skills
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Proficient in English - both oral and written
- Must be willing to work long hours
- 25-35 years old

Please fax resumé to **731-3828** or email to **gmcks_iis@yahoo.com**

MiCare, a health plan agency of the National Government of the Federated States of Micronesia is looking for a qualified applicant for the position of

ASSISTANT MEDICAL REVIEWER/ DRIVER

for it's local office in Manila. Applicant must be dedicated and energetic who is willing to work overtime.

Qualifications include a 4 years graduation from a recognized University or College. Two years of clerical work experience preferably in health administration or related field. Good command of spoken and written English. Good typing and computer skills are required. Must have a valid Philippine driver's license

Compensation is commensurate with the experience and degree of the applicant. Application will be closed on September 5, 2007

For more information and details, please call Ms. Glenda Remo or Ms. Rojean Dumpit at telephone numbers 724-9607, 723-0301, 723-0101 Local 5005 or send your resumé/CV at:

Micare Office, Room 1005, North Tower Building, St. Luke's Medical Center Compound, Quezon City

LEADING RECORDING COMPANY HAS AN URGENT NEED OF THE FF:

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT
- Accounting graduate, preferably CPA
- Preferably Assistant Manager/Managers specializing in Finance - General/ Cost Accounting or equivalent, must have at least 4 years related experience

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Finance/ Accountancy/Banking, Commerce or equivalent
- With work experience in Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Inventory Consignment, Taxation and Accounts reconciliation.

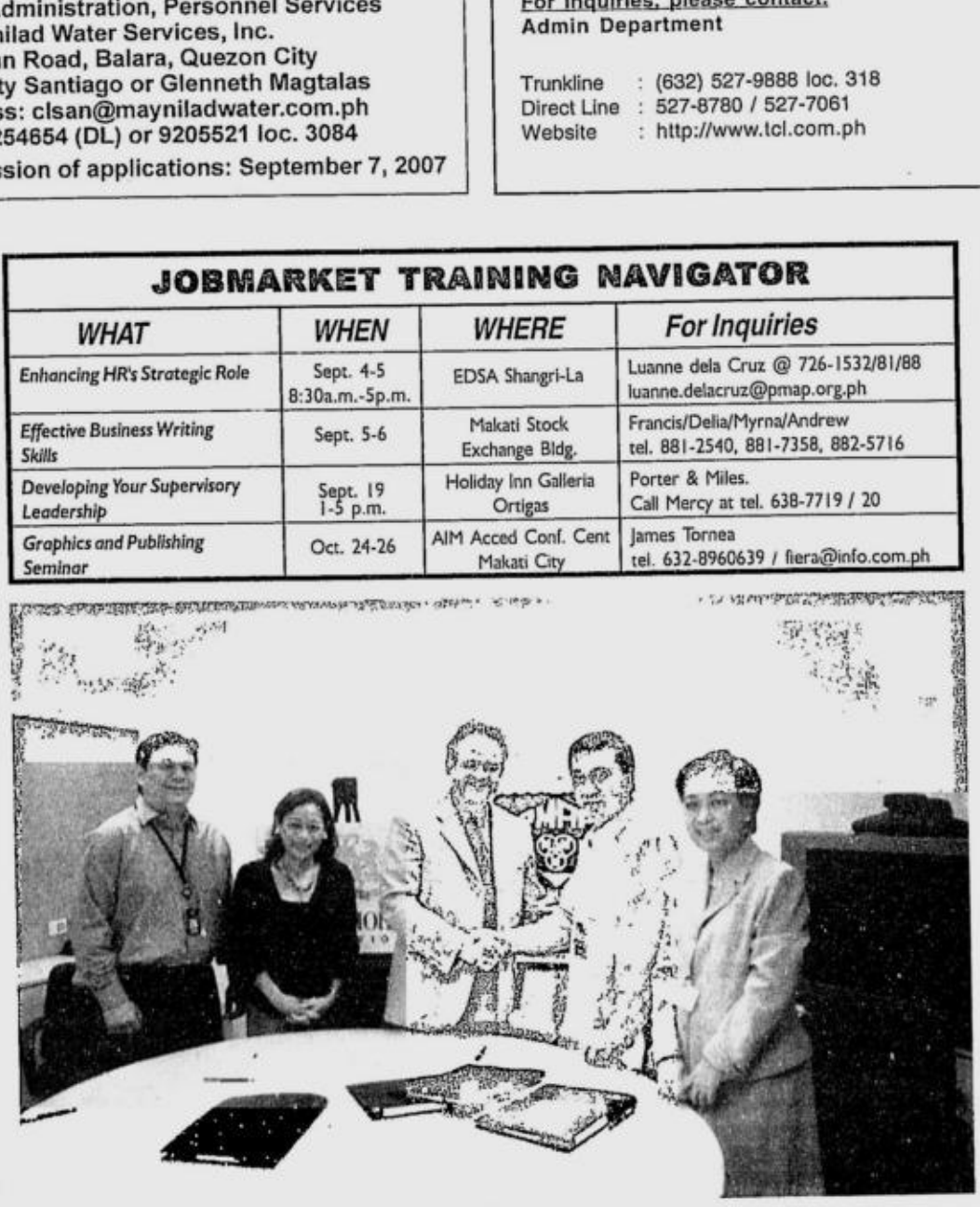
LOGISTICS SUPERVISOR
- Graduate of Management or any related course, have at least one year work related experience
- Has knowledge on inventory and warehouse management

AREA SALES SUPERVISORS
- Graduate of Management Marketing, Business or any related courses
- Has knowledge in sales, store analysis and in supervising staff

Send resumé at hrd ablemusic@yahoo.com or contact Mr. Resyl at 373-8636 to 37

JOBMARKET TRAINING NAVIGATOR

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	For Inquiries
Enhancing HR's Strategic Role	Sept. 4-5 8:30a.m.-5p.m.	EDSA Shangri-La	Luanne dela Cruz @ 726-1532/81/88 luanne.delacruz@pmap.org.ph
Effective Business Writing Skills	Sept. 5-6	Makati Stock Exchange Bldg.	Francis/Delia/Myrna/Andrew tel. 881-2540, 881-7358, 882-5716
Developing Your Supervisory Leadership	Sept. 19 1-5 p.m.	Holiday Inn Galleria Ortigas	Porter & Miles. Call Mercy at tel. 638-7719 / 20
Graphics and Publishing Seminar	Oct. 24-26	AIM Acced Conf. Cent Makati City	James Tornea tel. 632-8960639 / fiera@info.com.ph



PMAP CONFERENCE SPONSOR

Philip Morris signs up as Principal sponsor of 44th Annual Conference. With this year's theme, "PEOPLE DELIVER! Linking People and Results", the conference aims to further emphasize the need for people development. Photo shows from left are Mr. Raymond Miranda, HR Director Ann Dalupan, Philip Morris Managing Director, Mr. Chris J. Nelson Managing Director, PMAP President Mark Go and PMAP Past Pres. Lina Aseneta.

Developing supervisory leadership skills

THE PRODUCTIVE OR anemic performance of your people and your business depends largely on your supervisors. If they can effectively guide, control and motivate the people, the desired result will be achieved. Empower and equip your Supervisors on Sept. 19, 1 – 5 p.m. at Holiday Inn Galleria Manila, Ortigas. The seminar is sponsored by Porter and Miles, Inc., a premier training company on business, management, marketing, sales and human resource development, with office address at Suite 2502-C Tektite Tower East, Ortigas Center. Call Mercy at 638-7719 / 20 for registration / more information. Limited seats only.

JOB Market Find A Career In Here

RATE YOU AT GAMER?

Then we've got the right job for you!

NCO GROUP SM

SIGNING BONUS awaits successful applicants

WE HAVE JOB OPENINGS FOR

GAMING CONSOLE TECHNICAL SUPPORT AGENTS

We are also in need of call center agents for Customer Service, Directory Assistance, Sales and Collections.

JOIN OUR EXCLUSIVE JOB FAIRS AND BE HIRED IMMEDIATELY!

Be Connected Internet Cafe

September 3, 4 & 5 Time: 1-5 PM
Be Connected Internet Cafe
3rd Level Glorietta 2, Ayala Center, Makati City

September 6 & 7 Time: 12:30 - 7 PM
Be Connected Internet Cafe
Level M4, TriNoma North Triangle, Quezon City

QUALIFICATIONS: High School Graduate, 18 y/o & Above, Computer Literate & Good English Communication Skills
Kindly bring your Resume and be ready for tests and interviews

You can also send your resume to: manilarecruitment@ncogroup.com or
Visit us from Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm
4/F ELJ Communications Center, ABS-CBN Comp., Mother Ignacia Ave., Quezon City
Contact Numbers: 981-7564; 981-7585 to 86 Recruitment Mobile: 0919-713-7777

ISUZU

Philippines Corporation — **Your responsible partner**

Isuzu Philippines Corporation (IPC) is the authorized manufacturer and distributor of high quality commercial vehicles and powertrain engines. Moving people and businesses forward, IPC brings to the country the Isuzu brand, a global name renowned for unparalleled diesel engine technology and vehicles of superior durability and fuel economy. Be part of the dynamic team behind the world –class Isuzu brand!

TECHNICAL TRAINER (Code: DND-02)

* Male, B.S. Mechanical graduate, licensed engineer
* With 3-5 years experience in the automotive industry
* Excellent communication and presentation skills
* Knowledgeable in training module preparation
* Customer oriented
* With professional driver's license

TECHNICAL ENGINEER (Code: CBD-01)

* Male, Licensed B.S. Mechanical/ Electrical Engineering graduate
* With at least 3 years work experience in the automotive industry
* Excellent verbal and written communication skills
* Customer oriented
* Expertise in mechanical and electrical aspect of vehicle repairs
* With professional driver's license

TECHNICIAN (Code: DND-02)

* Male, Automotive Technology graduate
* 25-30 years old
* With at least 2 years work experience in the automotive industry

OFFICE STAFF (Code: DND-03)

* Female, graduate of any Engineering or Business course
* Excellent communication skills, knowledgeable in MS Office
* Has a good learning attitude, with or without experience

JUNIOR PROGRAMMER (Code: ADM-01)

* Male/Female, graduate of any Computer Science or any IT related 4 year course
* Must have knowledge in computer programming
* Can prepare complex programs with minimal supervision
* Proficiency in Microsoft Access and Crystal Report is an advantage

You may submit your application letter (with code) and resume at
114 Technology Ave., Phase 2,
Laguna Technopark Incorporated, Biñan, Laguna 4024
or e-mail/fax at **hrs@isuzuphil.com/02-6700-1196**

Deadline for submission is on Friday, Sept 14, 2007
Competitive compensation and benefits package await successful applicants.

RAMCAR
GROUP OF COMPANIES

PRODUCTION ENGINEERS
- ☑ Male; 20-30 years old
- ☑ Graduate of **Mechanical, Electrical or Electronics and Communications** Engineering
- ☑ License is an advantage but not required
- ☑ Preferably with work experience in a Manufacturing set-up.
- ☑ Computer proficient, knowledge in Machine operations
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

PROCESS ENGINEERS
- ☑ Male, 21-25 years old
- ☑ **Chemical or Metallurgical Engineering Graduate**
- ☑ With very good scholastic records
- ☑ Must exhibit effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

CHEMICAL ENGINEERS
- ☑ Male/Female, 21-25 years old
- ☑ **Chemical Engineering Graduate/ BS Chemistry Graduate**
- ☑ With very good scholastic records
- ☑ Must exhibit effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- ☑ Must exhibit interest in research and development
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

SOURCING AGENTS
- ☑ **College graduate; preferably Engineering**
- ☑ With exposure in procurement, inventory, materials planning and other operation's management principles.
- ☑ Experience in Materials Management is an advantage
- ☑ Preferably with SAP background
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
- ☑ Male; 23-35 years old
- ☑ **A licensed Electrical Engineer**
- ☑ With know-how on electronics
- ☑ Must be knowledgeable in power and control circuit designs
- ☑ With minimum of 2 years experience in plant electrical maintenance
- ☑ Computer literate
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

JR. STRUCTURAL DESIGNER
- ☑ Male, 24-35 years old
- ☑ **BS Civil Engineering graduate; licensed**
- ☑ Must be well-versed in ***AUTOCAD***
- ☑ Knowledgeable in **structural design** such as building, plants, tanks design and calculation
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

PRODUCTION FOREMEN
- ☑ Male, 21-32 years old
- ☑ **Engineering graduate (preferably Chemical/Mechanical/ Metallurgical & Electrical)**
- ☑ License is an advantage
- ☑ With exposure in a manufacturing set-up
- ☑ Exhibits strong leadership skills and good command in English communication
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Marilao, Bulacan

SHIFT SUPERVISORS
- ☑ Male, 25-30 years old
- ☑ **Environmental or Metallurgical Engineering graduate; preferably with license**
- ☑ With 2 years experience on a manufacturing firm in a Supervisory capacity and has exposures on various environmental processes
- ☑ Highly analytical and must possess strong leadership skills
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Marilao, Bulacan

SALES ENGINEERS
- ☑ Male or Female; 25-35 years old
- ☑ **Graduate of Electrical or Mechanical Engineering**
- ☑ With preference to applicants with **Sales** exposure
- ☑ Possess excellent communication skills
- ☑ Knows how to drive (with license)
- ☑ Must be willing to do fieldworks

DEALER RELATIONS MANAGERS
- ☑ Male; 23-35 years old
- ☑ **Graduate of any 4-year Business course**
- ☑ With at least 2 years experience in SALES preferably from Top Corporations
- ☑ Experience from an automotive industry is an advantage
- ☑ Must possess effective people skills and strong sales interest

ACCOUNTANTS/AUDITORS
- ☑ Should be either
  - **A CPA, no experience required or**
  - **A non-CPA, with experience in SAP**
- ☑ Very good in performing reconciliation work and Audit tasks
- ☑ With good scholastic records
- ☑ Proficient in Microsoft Excel
- ☑ Possess good English communication skills

JOINT VENTURE CONTROLLERS
- ☑ Female; 25-30 years old
- ☑ **B.S. Accountancy graduate**
- ☑ Proficient in MS Excel/PowerPoint; preferably with at least 1 year experience
- ☑ Articulate and well-versed in presentation of Financial reports
- ☑ Must be willing to do fieldwork

CSR SPECIALISTS
- ☑ Male of Female; 25-35 years of age
- ☑ **Graduate of AB/BS Social Work & Community Development, Psychology or Public Administration (Masters Degree would be an advantage)**
- ☑ MUST have general knowledge in CSR, public/community relations including media affairs and target stakeholders' consultation.
- ☑ Possess excellent project management skills
- ☑ With good oral and written communication skills

PROJECT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST
- ☑ Male/Female; 21-28 years old
- ☑ **Engineering graduate**
- ☑ With at least 1 year experience or position in a service or manufacturing set up
- ☑ Knowledgeable in project management systems
- ☑ Knowledgeable in computer systems: SAP Project Systems, MS Office and MS Project Software

ASSISTANT MOLD MAKERS
- ☑ Male; 22- 35 years old
- ☑ **Technical course graduate**
- ☑ With **3-5** years experience as an Assistant Mold Maker
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

MACHINISTS
- ☑ Male, 25-30 years old
- ☑ **Technical course graduate**
- ☑ With at least 2 years experience in machine shop operations
- ☑ Must have knowledge in the use of various measuring instruments.
- ☑ Can interpret engineering drawings
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

MACHINE ASSEMBLERS/WELDERS
- ☑ Male; 25-35 years old
- ☑ **Graduate of technical course**
- ☑ 2-5 years of experience in the machine shop
- ☑ Background in TIG welding or refrigeration is an advantage
- ☑ Knows how to interpret mechanical drawings
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN
- ☑ Male, 20-35 years old
- ☑ **Graduate of Electrical Technology or any Technical course**
- ☑ Knowledgeable in electrical wiring and devices
- ☑ Must be willing to work in Sta. Maria, Bulacan

Applicants are requested to apply personally with resumé, 2x2 picture and copy of Transcript of Records to:

RAMCAR CENTER
(Battery Group)
80 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Q.C.
or send e-mail to: recruitment@motolite.com

INQUIRER Libre

Advertise in JobMarket Libre

JOB Market
Find a career in here

Inquire about the JobMarket package at 897-8808 loc 514.

Are you a **SMART** & **PERSUASIVE** conversationalist?

Are you **ENGAGING** and **PLEASING** over the phone?

Are you **ASSERTIVE, DRIVEN** & **AMBITIOUS**?

Are you **ENTHUSIASTIC** & **PASSIONATE** about sales?

ARE YOU ONE OF US?

We are looking for

Outbound Telemarketers/ Inside Sales Reps/ Team Lead

Requirements:

- Excellent oral communication skills
- At least 1 year experience in telemarketing
- Must be sales oriented; computer & net savvy
- A team player & can work with minimal supervision
- Willing to work in Alabang, Muntinlupa & on a shifting schedule

Interested applicants may submit their resumes at
careers@dedicatedrep.com
or visit us personally at:

DedicatedRep.com
RELATIONSHIPS FOCUSED ON YOU 24/7

Dedicated Rep, Inc.
LG3 Richville Corporate Tower, Alabang-Zapote Road,
Madrigal Business Park, Muntinlupa City
Tel.No. (02) 809-6436 or 809-7851

Dedicated Rep, Inc. is a US-owned sales-driven company based in Alabang that is looking for bright, assertive and ambitious individuals who want to pursue a career in the challenging field of sales support.

AMA Computer University

JOB OPENINGS

Non-Academic

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- CPA or Non-CPA
- Has at least 3 months experience in bookkeeping, cost accounting & general accounting
- With knowledge in Peachtree / Quickbooks or equivalent system
- Can prepare bank recon, aging of A/R, Inventory recon & other schedules for FS
- With background in preparation of VAT, SSS, Philhealth, Pag-Ibig, tax & withholding tax remittances
- Can meet deadlines for reports
- Can render overtime if required
- Sound knowledge in accounting process

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISORS
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- CPA or Non-CPA
- With good supervisory skills
- With knowledge in Peachtree / Quickbooks or equivalent system
- Can prepare monthly Financial Statements and schedules
- Can identify wrong entries in the system and make adjustment
- Must know how to scrutinize documents for voucher payable
- Maintain and arrange books of accounts including accounts reconciliation
- Can meet the deadline for reports
- Can work overtime if required
- Sound knowledge in accounting process

INTERNAL AUDITORS/AUDIT SUPERVISORS/COMPUTER SYSTEMS AUDIT MANAGER
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- 6 months related work experience
- For audit supervisor applicants, supervisory experience in auditing is a must
- CPA or Non-CPA
- Willing to travel

SALES & MARKETING SPECIALISTS
- Graduate of any Business related courses, Mass Communications or equivalent
- Good Communication Skills, must have a pleasing personality
- Familiar in Basic Microsoft Excel, Word & Internet Operations
- Excellent communication skills.

HR LABOR MANAGER
- Law graduate or with units in Law preferred
- Work experience in law firm or investigation or litigation office is an advantage
- Willing to work extended hours to deliver what is expected by the department

HR DIRECTOR
- Minimum of 5 years extensive working experience as a Director for Human Resources Department is an advantage
- Competitive salary package awaits successful applicant
- Results and goal oriented
- Equipped with knowledge and can easily adapt to fast paced environment

SCHOOL DIRECTORS/ MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
- Responsible in the overall management of assigned campus, which involves marketing for new students, building administration & branch management.
- Must have at least 3-5 years of Managerial, Marketing with sales experience.
- With excellent communication skills.
- Willing to be assigned to any of our branches as well as in the Visayas & Mindanao areas.

Academic Positions

DEANS
- Responsible in rendering quality education to the students for the attainment of the AMACC mission; conducting evaluation procedures to assess teaching performance of faculty members and to ensure that quality education is being rendered without compromise. With 5 years teaching experience and 2 years administrative or managerial or relevant experience.

FACULTY

College of Arts and Sciences
College of Business Administration
College of Computer Science
College of Computer Engineering
- Graduate of AB/BS Psychology, Computer Engineering, Information Technology, Computer Science, Information Management, ECE Accountancy, English, Marine Transportation or Social Sciences, Tourism, Hotel and Restaurant Management, AB/BS Economics
- With good Scholastic records from reputable schools.
- Related license is necessary for Accountancy and ECE Faculty position applicants
- Preferably graduate of any related Masters/ PhD degrees or has at least 18 MA/MS units
- 5 years practice in the area of specialization is an advantage

Please email your application letter together with your updated resumé to:
AEEMiro@amaes.edu.ph or HR-recruitment@amaes.edu.ph
Please indicate the position title applied for as subject of your e-mail or through snail mail addressed to:
The Corporate Human Resources
AMA Group of Companies
 # 59 Panay Avenue, Quezon City.
Tel # 373-3901 loc 8249/8288

US-based SYNNEX Corporation (NYSE:SNX) is here and has recently integrated Philippine-based Link2Support (L2S) into its US$ 6 billion revenue outsourcing operations. SYNNEX, a recognized provider of customized and fully integrated solutions to multinational clients, shares with Link2Support its broad sphere of influence and solid expansion capital. This has propelled L2S to advance at accelerated speed to now provide wider range of services, diverse career opportunities and limitless growth possibilities.

So if you're looking for a place to grow, come to Link2Support.

Your career gets even better here.

SYNNEX **has landed**

Link2Support
Built best for technology.
www.link2support.com

VACANCIES

Operations:
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVES
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS
- CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT AGENTS
- SALES REPRESENTATIVES
- SOFTWARE LICENSING SPECIALISTS
- TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS
- JAPANESE & KOREAN AGENTS
- On-The-Job Trainees (preferably Psychology major, Mass Communication or other related disciplines)

Support Group:
- ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
- FINANCIAL CONTROLLER
- ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
- OPERATIONS ANALYST
- SENIOR OPERATIONS MANAGER
- OPERATIONS MANAGERS
- OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
- E-SUPPORT MANAGERS
- PROGRAM MANAGERS

Walk-in and get hired the same day!

Send your resumes to:

Manila:
recruitment@link2support.com
5th Floor TechnoPlaza One Building, Orchard Road, Eastwood City CyberPark, 188 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue, Bagumbayan, Quezon City, 1100
Phone Number: (632) 423-8700 Loc 8714 and 8813

Cagayan de Oro:
recruitment_cdo@link2support.com
Block 2 Lot 3 Trade St. Pueblo de Oro IT Park, Cagayan de Oro City
Phone Number: (088) 853-2200

Davao:
recruitment_dvo@link2support.com
Damosa I.T. Park Bldg. J.P. Laurel Ave., Lanang, Davao City
Phone Number: (082) 235-5000 Loc 8012 to 17

Your career gets EVEN better here!

The country's widely read and circulated newspaper is in need of:

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Secretary
Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably BS Secretarial Course
- 1 year experience in related job
- Knowledge of basic office and e-mail software
- Knowledge of basic computer operations

Research Section Head
Qualifications:
- College graduate
- 2 years experience in related or similar job
- 2 years management experience
- Computer Skills (Windows, Word, Netscape, Explorer, Excel, Corel Draw, Powerpoint)
- Familiar with publishing industry

Audit Assistant
Qualifications:
- Accounting graduate preferably Certified Public Accountant
- At least 2 years experience in auditing/computer audit
- Knowledge of General Accounting & Auditing Principles and Procedures
- Knowledge of Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data Analysis, Taxation and Labor Laws

Computer Engineer
Qualifications:
- Graduate of Computer Engineering /ECE
- 6 months to 1 year experience on this job
- Knowledge of computer operations system like Windows XP and Windows 2000/MAC OS X, desktop applications like MS Office, Open Office, Email client , Adobe Products
- Troubleshooting skills, Interpersonal Skills, Communication Skills
- Knowledge in network

Graphic Designer
Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably Fine Arts
- 2 years experience as Graphic Designer
- 1 year experience in publishing
- Knowledge in Photoshop, Pagemaker, Corel Draw
- Skilled in Manual and Computer based illustration, Page Design

Account Executive
Qualifications:
- College graduate with background in Marketing or related course
- Knowledge of computer operations
- Interpersonal skills, report writing skills, Presentation skills, Communication skills

SYSTEMS ANALYST / PROGRAMMER
Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- Background in Computer hardware
- 1 to 2 years experience in this job or jobs leading to it
- Knowledge in Web Programming VB Scripting, Perl Scripting, Visual Basic or Powerbuilder, MS SQL 2000 or Sybase SQL other relational database management system

HR STAFF
Qualifications:
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or any Social Sciences
- At least 1 year experience in Human Resources
- Knowledge in any of the following: recruitment, training, labor relations, performance management
- With excellent interpersonal skills, communication skills, coordination skills and a strong service orientation

REPORTERS
Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably major in Journalism or Mass Communication
- At least 1 year experience in news reporting
- Computer skills, Communication skills, Writing skills, Interviewing skills, Interpersonal skills and Research skills

You may also leave your resume so we can consider you for our future vacancies.
Email us at recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

CHALLENGING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

A leading assistance service company in the Philippines providing 24/7 emergency assistance services to over 115 million members worldwide, is inviting top-caliber applicants to join its local expansion program for the following positions:

Sales Executives
- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a firm background in Sales & Marketing or related field.
- With 1-4 years relevant sales experience from the Insurance, Healthcare and Assistance industries.
- Able to demonstrate effective selling skills, aggressiveness, good judgment, initiative and must be results-oriented.
- Must have above-average verbal communication and writing skills.
- Salary and fringe benefits commensurate with skills and work experience.

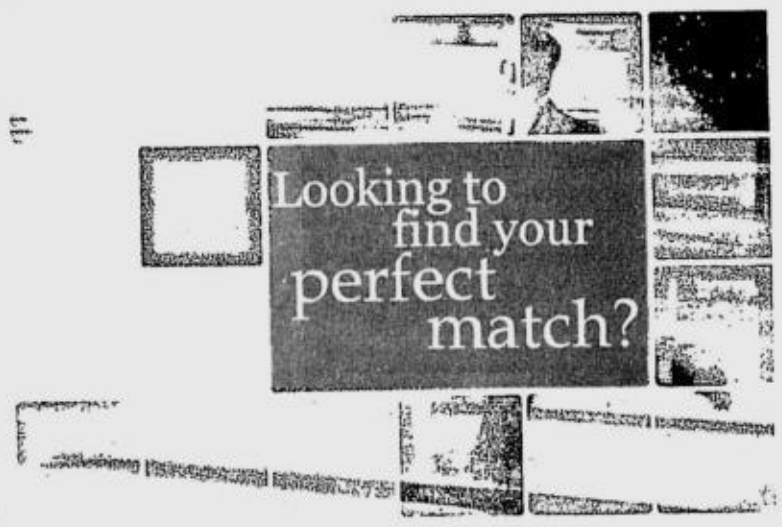
Operations Coordinators
- College graduate preferably of any allied medical course. Fresh graduates/Entry level applicants are encouraged to apply.
- Excellent interpersonal links and communication skills
- Willing to be assigned on a shifting work schedule.
- Confident, hardworking, assertive and can work under pressure
- Computer Literate

Tax Compliance Staff
- Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy or its equivalent.
- With 1-2 years work experience handling tax-related functions.
- Must have adequate knowledge of Philippine taxation principles, laws and regulations.
- Knowledgeable in web-based transaction processing and able to work under minimum supervision.
- Organized, systematic and meticulous to details.

Interested applicants may send their résumé and credentials to:

EA PHILIPPINES
Beyond Emergency Assistance

Human Resources Department
EA PHILIPPINES, INC.
3rd Floor 6788 Bldg., Ayala Ave., Makati City
E-mail: hrd@eaphils.com



We bring exciting opportunities for qualified people:

Deputy Team Leader - Facilities Management Group
Real Estate Officer (for a leading Food Services Company)
Credit & Collections Supervisor
Project Architects
Oracle Applications Manager
Sr. Oracle Analyst
Web Developer
Net Programmer
Accountants (CPA)
Accounting Assistants / Staff
Recruitment Analyst / Specialist
Research & Development Officer (for Personal & Healthcare Products)
Key Accounts Specialist
Distributor Specialist
Promo & Events Officer
Brand Management Officer
Ad & Promo Officer
Marketing Assistant (Sales & Merchandising Management)
Operations Management Trainee
Banking & Finance Specialist
Call Center Agents
Receptionist

corporate executive search, inc.

In the trade we are called Headhunters.

But we prefer to think of ourselves as Matchmakers.

We provide varied, interesting, and challenging work with great opportunities for development in Top Fortune 500 and Filipino companies.

Visit www.corpexecsearch.com for information about the opportunities available. You may apply directly through our website or send your RESUME to:
cesi@nxdsl.com.ph
m.obillo@corpexecsearch.com

Suite 1101 Medical Plaza Makati Amorsolo cor. Dela Rosa Sts.
Legaspi Village, Makati City 1229 (Behind Makati Medical Center)
Tel : 02 - 7506138 , Fax: 02 - 7517305

SILVERSEA

Silversea Cruises, named world's best small ship cruise line, is currently seeking young and experienced professionals who are capable of providing six-star service.

If you welcome a professional challenge with career possibilities aboard one of the world's finest floating resorts, we offer the following opportunities:

Bar Waitress	Pastry Chef
Deck Steward / Bar Waiter	Butcher
Galley Utility / Kitchen Helper	Baker
Asst. Chef de Partie / Sous Chef	Provision Utility / Storekeeper
Asst. Cook / Asst. 2nd Cook	Dining Utility
Asst. Waiter / Waitress	Housekeeping Utility / Chambermaid

Successful candidates will have proven their abilities in first class establishments, be responsive to the discriminating requirements of upscale world travelers and possess a good command of the English language. Salary paid in US dollars at very competitive rates.
Please send your CV with a recent photo and written references via email: jmi.recruitment@abojeb.com.ph

Or visit us and look for:
Ms. Monic Bautista
Jebsens Maritime, Inc.
2nd Floor, Harbor Center II, Chicago & Railroad Streets
South Harbor, Port Area, Manila
Tel: +02 5279980 ext. nos. 602, 510, 624

Silversea executives will be in Manila from October 8 to 12.
Please apply now for schedule of interviews.

ACCOUNTING STAFF

Requirements:
- Candidate must be a BS Accountancy Graduate
- Preferably with atleast 1-2 year(s) experience in General Accounting or equivalent
- Required Skill(s): disbursements, Microsoft applications
- Applicants must be willing to work in Binondo.
- With strong and pleasing personality
- Can work with minimum supervision and with good moral character

Interested applicants must bring resumé at:

311 Muelle de Binondo Street,
Binondo, Manila
or e-mail:
jenny.topang@philmancomml.com

ALLIED BANK

Build your tomorrow with us today. Join our dynamic team.

BRANCH AND BUSINESS CENTER VACANCIES

Branch Heads (BH)
Branch Operations Officers (BOO)
(For Metro Manila, Palawan, Bacolod, Cebu, Roxas, Tacloban, Boracay, Davao and various provincial branches)
- With at least 2 years experience in the same capacity
- With a successful track record in banking specifically in the management and control of branch operations.
- With strong marketing and interpersonal skills

New Accounts Clerks/Tellers
- Business course graduate.
- With pleasing personality.
- Assertive and customer service-oriented.

Account Officers for Business Centers (AO/BC)
(For Caloocan, Greenhills, Binondo, Cebu & Iloilo, Pampanga, Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro & Lucena)
Account Officers for Consumer Loans (AO/CL)
(For Metro Manila, Binondo, Cavite, Laguna, Bicol Naga, Legaspi, Dagupan, San Fernando, Pampanga, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro)
- With at least 2 years work experience in Credit and Account Management.
- Fluency in Fookien would be an advantage.

Marketing Assistants
(For Metro Manila, Binondo, Cavite, Laguna, Naga, Legaspi, Dagupan, San Fernando, Pampanga, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro)
- With at least 2 years experience in sales & marketing and credit evaluation.

HEAD OFFICE VACANCIES

AUDIT/CONTROLLERSHIP GROUP
Junior Auditors
- Must be a CPA and is willing to travel

Accounting Assistants
- BS Accountancy graduates preferably with experience.

LOANS GROUP
Loan/Trade Officers (L/TO)
- Knowledgeable in loan/or trade transactions.

MERCHANT BANKING GROUP
Remedial Account Officer (RAO)
- With experience in handling/restructuring delinquent accounts.

TRUST GROUP
Portfolio & Investment Officer (PIO)
- With at least 3 yrs. experience in Trading and Investments.

CREDIT CARD GROUP
Collection Section Head (CSH)
- At least 2 years in credit and collections which includes but not limited to effective implementation of collection strategies, capacity planning, and MIS tracking.

Finance Section Head (FSH)
- With at least 3 years managerial experience in financial planning or reporting and analysis preferably in a credit card company.

Accounting Section Head (ASH)
- With at least 3 years managerial experience in credit card accounting.
- Must know how to formulate policies and procedures in accounting to conform with updated Philippine and US generally accepted accounting principles.

Team Leader (TL)
- With at least 1 year experience in a Call Center or Credit Card company

Java Programmer (JP)
- With at least 2 years experience in Java Application Development
- Must be able to design, develop and maintain application systems with Corporate Standards
- Familiar using SQL to interface with a variety of database

Head Authorizer
- Willing to work in a 24/7 support service.

Fraud Analyst
- With advanced working knowledge of applications like spreadsheets, graphics, databases and other analytical software.

Authorizers
- Willing to work in a 24/7 support service.

Pre-Screener
- With at least 1 yr. experience in credit card processing, which includes receiving and pre-screening credit card applications, preparing transmittals and monitoring application turn-around time.

Phone Verifier
- With at least 1 yr. experience in credit card processing, which includes conducting phone verification of applications, conducting fraud handling techniques on suspicious applications, preparing transmittals for endorsement, and monitoring application turn-around time.
- Must have hands-on experience with any customer application system.

Credit Analyst
- With at least 1 yr. experience in credit card processing, which includes conducting phone verification of applications, evaluation of card applicants' eligibility for credit card, and conducting fraud handling techniques on suspicious applications, preparing transmittals for endorsement, and monitoring application turn-around time.

Telemarketer
Card Production Supervisor
Document Production Supervisor
Marketing Assistants

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT GROUP
Product Officer (PO)
- Must have experience in product development and design/advertising

Product Specialist
- Preferably with experience in branch banking.

Graphic Artist
- Skilled in Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop & Corel Draw
- Knowledgeable in digital SLR camera photography

Web Administrator
- With basic knowledge of HTML and Photoshop.

RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP
Credit Risk Officer (CRO)
- Has experience in Credit with at least 3 years experience in risk analysis & credit evaluation.

INFOTECHNOLOGY GROUP
Senior Systems Engineer – Special Projects (SSE-SP)
- With 3 years experience in systems analysis and design.

Senior Systems Engineer – Web-based Applications (SSE-WEB)
- At least 3 years experience in PHP/SQL programming in database environment.

Junior Systems Engineers – Web-based Applications (JSE-WEB)
- With knowledge of PHP, PostgreSQL/MySQL. HTML, JavaScript.

Junior Systems Engineers – Mainframe Applications (JSE-MF)
- Must be familiar with COBOL programming.

Junior Systems Engineers – Special Projects (JSE-SP)
- Familiarity with systems administration, programming, networking an advantage.

Junior Systems Engineers – PC-based Applications (JSE-PC)
- Must be familiar with Foxpro and Visual Basic programming

Interested applicants for OFFICER positions should send their application with POSITION CODE thru e-mail at recruitment@alliedbank.com.ph. For STAFF positions, applicants may come personally to submit their resume, transcript of records and latest 2x2 picture on September 06 - 07, 2007 at the Penthouse, 9:00am – 12:00nn, Allied Bank Center, 6754 Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

(PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY)

Wyeth

Leading the Way to a Healthier World

If challenges, fun, travel and excellence excite you, then these job opportunities in the world of nutritional manufacturing await you!!

We are a leading global nutritional and pharmaceutical company and offer compensation and benefits package above industry level to the successful candidates.

PRODUCTION DIVISION

Production Operator (CODE: PrO)
Function:
Responsible for safely operating and maintaining of the various processing machines and systems involved in the manufacturing of infant formula.

Qualifications:
- ❑ Trade/ vocational school graduate or College graduate or equivalent
- ❑ Minimum of 2 years related experience
- ❑ Able to perform full operational diagnostics and minor equipment repairs and maintenance, following equipment Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- ❑ Computer literate
- ❑ Willing to work in shifting schedule.

Production Supervisor (CODE: PrS)
Function:
Responsible for overseeing the manufacturing operations of his assigned section/s during the work shift, in accordance with Current Good Manufacturing Procedure and other established SOPs.

Qualifications:
- ❑ Graduate of a 4-year Bachelor Science program
- ❑ Minimum of 5 years experience in manufacturing operations & production
- ❑ At least two years in a people management role
- ❑ Has knowledge in forecasting, planning/scheduling & time management
- ❑ Must exhibit strong leadership and communication skills

ENGINEERING DIVISION

HVAC Technician (CODE: HvT)
Function:
Focused on the operation, maintenance and monitoring of all heating, ventilating, air compressors and air conditioning equipment including its auxiliaries in the plant.

Qualifications:
- ❑ Must be a college graduate or trade school or vocational graduate in refrigeration or air conditioning preferably a certified plant mechanic.
- ❑ Must have at least two (2) years experience in refrigeration or air conditioning
- ❑ Knowledge on compressed air system, and air balancing, Building Management System

Boiler Operator (CODE: BOP)
Function:
Ensures the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of boilers, and its auxiliaries (pumps, de-aerator, de-ionizing equipment, hot water system, fuel supply system, burners, operational controls and safety equipment).

Qualifications:
- ❑ BS Mechanical Engineering graduate or trade school graduate
- ❑ Preferably a certified plant mechanic.
- ❑ Must have at least two (2) years actual or related experience in boiler operation and maintenance
- ❑ Broad knowledge on test of safety equipment and devices.
- ❑ Knowledge in water chemical analysis.

QUALITY DIVISION

Chemistry Laboratory Analyst (CODE: CLA)
Function:
Performs laboratory testing for in-process materials/ products and at least raw material testing and proximate analysis of bulk and finished products.

Qualifications:
- ❑ BS Chemistry or BS Chemical Engineering
- ❑ With PRC License
- ❑ At least one (1) year experience in gravimetric and volumetric analyses
- ❑ Proven proficiency in analytical work in at least two (2) of the defined laboratory instruments such as: UV-VIS, Mojonnier Tester, NIR or equivalent, IR/ Fluorometers, HPLC
- ❑ Computer literate

QA Records Inspector (CODE: QaRI)
Function:
Primarily responsible for auditing batch records and related documents, renders general documentation assistance to the section.

Qualifications:
- ❑ Graduate of technical course – BS Chemical Engineering, BS Chemistry, BS Industrial Pharmacy, or related courses.
- ❑ At least five (5) years experience in production or quality assurance of food or pharmaceutical plant
- ❑ Proficient in the use of computer (specifically Windows applications)
- ❑ Knowledge in statistical applications and analysis
- ❑ Can conduct critical review of test reports, manufacturing documents and product formulations.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their updated résumé to the given postal/email address below not later than **October 15, 2007**:

Canlubang office: HRD Department
Wyeth Philippines, Inc.
Bo. Pittland, Canlubang Industrial Estate,
Cabuyao, Laguna

Email address: recruitment@wyeth.com

Previous applicants need not apply. We will only reply to qualified applicants.

In line with its expansion program, Sarimanok Feeds Company, Inc., the Animal Health Division of United Laboratories is looking for...

Sarimanok FEEDS COMPANY, INC.

BRAND ASSOCIATES/ BRANDMEN

- Male at least 23 years old
- Graduate of any business-related course from reputable University
- With above average scholastic records
- 2 years experience in Brand Management an advantage
- With Business savvy and above average marketing acumen
- Must be creative, flexible, and willing to work under pressure
- MBA graduate or units an advantage
- Must know how to drive and holder of a valid driver's license

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAREER AND PERSONAL GROWTH, AN ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATON PACKAGE PLUS ONE OF THE BEST COMPREHENSIVE FRINGE BENEFIT PROGRAMS IN THE INDUSTRY AWAIT THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

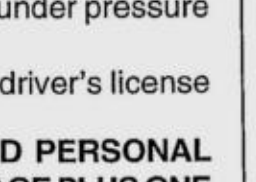
Applicants may send their application together with their comprehensive resumé, Transcript of records and passport size pictures to:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
86 Mayflower Street, Mandaluyong City
or e-mail to **fmmartinez@unilab.com.ph**
or **cbescondo@unilab.com.ph**

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

JOB Market

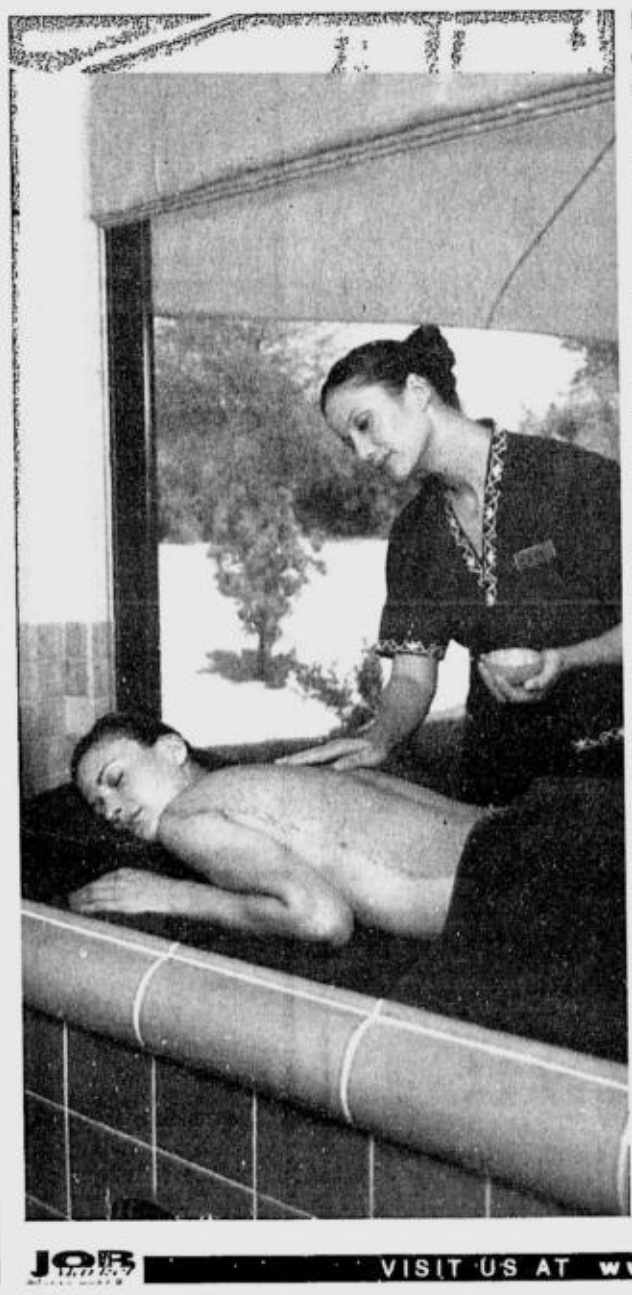
Now on-line at
www.jobmarketonline.com



Spa Professionals.

Join our world-class spa facility.

Emirates Hotels & Resorts



Emirates Hotels & Resorts, the premium hospitality division of the Emirates Group, is a professional, friendly and multicultural workplace. We are recruiting the best global talent for a wide range of positions at Timeless Spa. These positions are based in Dubai – the modern, cosmopolitan city of the future.

We offer challenging career opportunities, competitive tax-free salaries, accommodation, food, transport and annual tickets to qualified spa professionals in the following roles:

- **Spa Manager (Ref No: 8267)**
- **Spa Supervisor (Ref No: 8268)**
- **Spa Therapist (Ref No: 8265)**
- **Spa Receptionist/Assistant (Ref No: 8266)**

Our ideal candidates should be motivated and service-oriented, and fluent in English. Knowledge of other languages would be an advantage.

Essential qualifications include a recognised certificate/diploma with an international accredited institute, and comprehensive knowledge of treatment physiology and medical first aid.

All applicants must secure the Emirates 7-digit Online Reference Number (ORN) through **www.emiratesgroupcareers.com.** The ORN must be submitted to IPAMS upon personal application, together with the resume, educational and employment credentials, and two 2x2 photographs. Alternatively, candidates from remote areas can also log on to www.ipams.com and input their ORN in the application form or email their resume to len.clado@ipams.com.

IPAMS Industrial Personnel and Management Services, Inc.
35 Years in Service to the Filipino A NO-FEE Charging Entity
1455 Leon Guinto Cor. Gil Puyat Manila 1004 www.ipams.com
Providing you the best opportunities.

timeless spa

D. M. CONSUNJI, INC.

ENGINEERS · CONTRACTORS

BE A PART OF
A MIND THAT CREATES ...
A HAND THAT SHAPES ...
A VISION THAT BUILDS ...

TECHNICAL POSITIONS	NON-TECHNICAL POSITIONS
CIVIL ENGINEERS	ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
MECHANICAL ENGINEERS	ACCOUNTANTS
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS	FINANCIAL ANALYSTS
GEODETIC ENGINEERS	HRD MANAGER
MINING ENGINEERS	HRD SUPERVISOR
SAFETY ENGINEERS	HRD ASSISTANT
PLANNER / SCHEDULER	ADMIN OFFICER
QA/QC ENGINEERS	PURCHASING ASSISTANT
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERS	SECRETARIES / CLERKS
ARCHITECTS/DESIGN COORDINATOR	STOCKCLERKS
CADD OPERATORS	TIMEKEEPERS
EQUIPMENT ENGINEER	PROJECT NURSES
PIPING ENGINEER	SURVEYORS

2281 DMCI Bldg. 3F ,Chino Roces Ave. Makati City 1231
Tel. Nos. 841-0841 Email Application at: jobs@dmcinet.com
Pls. Apply Personally-Mon-Friday-8am - 5pm.

1 ONE RESUMÉ 5 FIVE CALLCENTERS

Apply at **TeleDevelopment Services, Inc.** and get the chance to apply in FIVE international call centers using just ONE resume.

Being the ONLY company in the Philippines specializing in Call Center and BPO Support Services, we know the industry and we know the people they are looking for.

Find out if you're qualified in any of our Top Call Center Partners. We provide Free Call Center Training to potential hire applicants.

For immediate hiring, call our recruitment hotline at **631.8230** or E-mail your resume' at
jobs@teledevelopment.com

Our **Executive Search Team** is looking for QA Managers, Workforce Managers, Executive Recruiters, HR Specialists, HR Directors and Sr. Operations Managers and Directors for our Call Center and BPO Partners
E-mail your resume' at
executivesearch@teledevelopment.com

35 - 36/F Robinsons Equitable Tower
ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center
Pasig City 1605
www.teledevelopment.com

TeleDevelopment callcenterjobs

IMMEDIATE HIRING!

SALES COORDINATOR
M/F Coll. Grad. w/ exp. in handling people

ACCOUNTING CLERK
M/F Accting Grad. with or w/out exp

OFFICE STAFF/ENCODER
Grad. 4 yrs course/ Comp literate

INTERIOR DESIGNER/ ARTIST
College Grad. w/ knowledge in Autocad

SALES PROMO/ MERCHANDISER
M/F 18-25 years old w/ exp. in selling

DRIVER - Rect. Code 123

APPLY AT:
PAMS, INC.
2/F Rm. 201 STG Bldg.
190 P. Tuazon, Cubao, Q.C.
Tel. 911-7441/995-0344
(Back of SM Cubao)

Dynamic Income Potential For
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- 18 to 25 years old
- College Level
- Pleasing Personality
- Good in oral and written communication
- Can work under pressure with minimum supervision

The SIM Discount Card Corp.
G/F, V. Corporate Center
21 Congressional Avenue,
Bahay Toro, Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 920-4260/66

SECURITY BANK

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Audit Officers
- Certified Public Accountant
- 1-2 years similar work experience
- Not over 35 years old

Accountants
- Accounting course graduate
- CPA is an advantage
- Computer literate

Network Engineers
- Graduate of ECE and other related courses
- Not over 28 years old
- Male or Female

Programmers
- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering and other related course
- Male or Female
- Not over 28 years old
- Willing to do field work in branches

Customer Service Specialist (Tellers/New Accounts)
- Graduate of any business related course
- Not over 28 years old
- Good Communication skills
- Computer literate

Members Services Representative (Call Center)
- Graduate of any business related course
- Not over 28 years old
- Good Communication skills
- Computer literate

Accounts Analyst / Credit Evaluation Assistant
- Graduate of any business related course
- Not over 28 years old
- Good Communication skills
- Computer literate

Accounts Assistant (CorBank)
- Graduate of any business related course
- Not over 28 years old
- Good Communication skills
- Computer literate

Please send your comprehensive resume with 2x2 picture and copy of transcript to:

Walk in: Security Bank Corporation
Human Resources Development Division
6776 Ayala Ave.. Makati City

e-mail: hrrecruitment@securitybank.com.ph

MARKETLINK
PHARMACEUTICAL CORPORATION

We are the exclusive marketing arm and strategic partner of various reputable European, American and Asian pharmaceutical companies. We offer an attractive and competitive remuneration package, professional training and development, and a corporate environment that encourages personal and career advancement.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

PRODUCT MANAGER (PM) for Oncology Division
- With at least 3 years experience in marketing oncological products and has experience in developing marketing plans.
- Must be a college graduate preferably with a degree in Business, Marketing or Science- related courses.
- Must be analytical with excellent decision-making, research, planning, negotiation and mathematical skills.
- Must possess excellent communication, presentation and training skills with attention to details, teamplayer with people orientation and computer literate.

PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES (PMR)
- Graduate of any science-related or business course with good scholastic records.
- Below 25 years old, proficient in oral and written communications, teamplayer and with strong interpersonal skills.
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines.

PHARMACIST (Regulatory Affairs) (PRA)
- Licensed Pharmacists with experience in product certification and registration.
- Excellent in oral and written communication and with strong interpersonal skills.
- Willing to do field work, teamplayer, below 35 years old.

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS (ACA)
- Accounting graduate with at least 1 year experience in cost and general accounting work.
- Below 30 years old; willing to render long hours of work; teamplayer.

Send your application letter and comprehensive resume **using the specified code** at 4F Taipan Place, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City or email at
grmedina@marketlink.com.ph

DEADLINE OF APPLICATION – SEPTEMBER 15, 2007

Incentive program for illegal recruitment victims, witnesses

IN A RELENTLESS EFfort to combat illegal recruitment, the Department of Labor and Employment (Dole) has initiated an incentive program for those who actively cooperate in the prosecution of erring recruiters.

Labor and Employment Secretary Arturo D. Brion said the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) Governing Board, which he chairs, has approved a resolution for the implementation of an incentive program that will provide assistance to victims and witnesses of illegal recruitment through the payment of docket fees and other court or legal fees.

G. B. Resolution No. 05 also provides that victims and witnesses availing of the program shall be given priority for overseas employment.

Brion said that many illegal recruitment cases are often dismissed due to the inability of complainants to pay the required docket fees in court. In some instances, victims cease to participate in proceedings after filing their cases and would instead opt to accept measly sum of settlement money.

He said that the POEA is mandated to provide free legal assistance to victims of illegal recruitment and other related cases which are administrative or criminal in nature.

He stressed that the incentive program, in a way, will address the difficulties experienced by complainants in attending preliminary investigation or court proceedings owing to employment restrictions or financial constraints.

He added that funds for the assistance program shall be sourced from the regular budget of POEA.

PLDT
Be part of the country's leading telecommunications company

Job Opportunities

CALL CENTER
CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
TECHNICAL SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVES
Completed at least 2 years in college
Strong English verbal communication skills
Willing to work on shifting schedules
MANDARIN-SPEAKING CSR

ENGINEERING
(BS ECE, BS EE)
CCNA TELECOM ENGINEERS
Must be a licensed ECE or EE
PROJECT ENGINEERS
Preferably with professional driver's license
TELECOM CONSULTANT
At least 2 years experience in Local Area/Wide Area Networking, data/ voice communications, both wired & wireless
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS

FINANCE/ACCOUNTING
(BS ACCOUNTANCY)
INTERNAL AUDITORS (preferably CPA)
FINANCIAL ANALYST (CPA)
TREASURY ASSISTANT
With knowledge in SAP Finance an advantage
Familiar in banks' payment systems

I.T.
SOFTWARE ENGINEERS
At least 3 years experience in system analysis design, programming and implementation
Proficient in PL/SQL, working knowledge in UNIX, Oracle, C++, Java, Microsoft Visual Studio, VB6, HTML and .Net
I.T. ARCHITECT
Bachelor's degree (BS CS, CoE, or ECE)
With 4 years experience in I.T., with certification on network product solution an advantage (e.g. Cisco, Juniper, etc)
Knowledge in TCP/IP inter-networking, LAN switching & routing
Knowledge in OS (Windows, Linux & Unix) Administration, scripting & hardware components (Network, Server, storage, etc)

Visit us at G/F PLDT Bldg., Boni Ave., Mandaluyong City
Call 8-PLDTHR (8-753847) or log on to www.pldt.com.ph

APPLY NOW!

WANTED DERMATOLOGISTS

Preferably female, single, w/ pleasing personality to handle SM San Lazaro branch. Will be offering competitive salary with commissions, bonuses and stock options

Submit resumé to:
SKINHEALTH INC.
3rd Level Greenbelt I
Ayala Centre, Makati City
(12:00 - 7:00 p.m. M-S)
Tel. # 8404241/43

HIRING COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS

Experience Required
Visual Studio 2005
Visual Basic/ASP/Java
MS Access
Knowledge of MS SQL Server and Oracle will be an advantage

Call or Text: **8058895/09178427642** for interview schedule or email resumé to
info@sogatech.com

ENGLISH TEACHER
- Male or Female
- Proficient in English Language, both in oral and written
- Full time or part time
- Newly graduate may apply
- Experience in international English testing review is a plus

Interested applicants may send their 2-page Resumé with scanned ID picture and Transcript of Records to **vcginstituteinc@yahoo.com** or submit to # 269 San Pancrasio St., corner San Vicente Ferrer St., San Antonio Valley 1, Parañaque City

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY

JOB Market ONLINE

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

ICT NEEDS MORE YOGOs!

It pays to be a Yogo! Totally!

OPENINGS IN MARIKINA
Inbound Customer Service Representatives
Full Time Outbound Sales Representatives
Data Encoders
Client Services Directors
Client Services Managers
Inbound Training Manager

OPENINGS IN ORTIGAS
Inbound Customer Service Representatives
Outbound Customer Service Representatives
Inbound Collections Agents
Operations Managers
Senior Supervisors
Client Services Directors
Client Services Managers

OPENINGS AT SHAW
Customer Service Representatives
(preferably with banking experience)
Senior Operations Managers

OPENINGS MAKATI
Inbound Customer Service Representatives
Inbound Collections Representatives

ICT offers the opportunity to work abroad.

Undergrads are welcome to apply.

Visit our recruitment centers:

Ortigas: 14th Floor Union Bank Plaza, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Makati: 18th Floor Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Ave., Makati City
Marikina: Ground Floor ICT Bldg., Riverbanks Centre, Marikina
Shaw: 3rd Floor Annex At Shaw Bldg., Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Marikina 2: ICT Bldg. D, Riverbanks Centre (beside Figaro) Marikina City

You may also e-mail your resumés to: yogomanila@ictgroup.com

you can also reach us through the ICT hotline: 8570305

ICT GROUP Be a YoGO

Building the future. One career at a time.

For walk-in applicants who want to be hired on the same day, please bring your NBI, SSS No. and TIN.

Senior SWIFT Operations Assistant

Responsibilities
The position provides administrative support to SWIFT operations by (i) coordinating and controlling the use of ADB's SWIFT system by the authorized users in various divisions for the handling of funds transfers, settlement of investments, and purchases of foreign exchange; (ii) assisting the officer in the establishment and management of SWIFT Bilateral Key Exchange (BKE) and telex authenticator key arrangements with depository correspondent banks worldwide; (iii) preparing daily summary of incoming and outgoing messages for reconciliation purposes, and monthly statistical reports on volume of SWIFT communications; (iv) reviewing and checking all SWIFT messages before they are dispatched to ensure that the messages are constructed in compliance with SWIFT message text standards; (v) ensuring that incoming messages are correctly identified and promptly distributed to users concerned; and (vi) conducting constant checking and monitoring of the system to ensure that all security measures are implemented.

Reporting Arrangement
The position reports to the Director, the designated Professional Staff and/or National Officer.

Selection Criteria
Specific criteria include: (i) suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level; (ii) Bachelor's degree in accounting, banking, finance, business administration, computer science/information technology, or other related disciplines; (iii) at least 5 years experience; (iv) comprehensive knowledge of SWIFT System: general overview (network, its objectives, structure, members, products and services; messages (types, formats, standards, validation and error codes); security aspect (access to the system, use of passwords, message authentication); (v) familiarity with in-house treasury facilities: depository banks, different bank accounts and various financial correspondents; treasury and mainframe systems and computer software applications in multilateral development institutions; (vi) considerable Treasury related clerical experience and a comprehensive knowledge of relevant Treasury procedures, guidelines and standards; (vii) understanding of the interactions between Treasury and other work areas of a multilateral development institution; (viii) solid numerical ability; (ix) proficiency in use of computer databases to input and extract information and to generate standard and ad hoc reports; and (x) excellent command of written and spoken English.

For more details about the position, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting **Ref. No. EXT-AS07-180(4)-TDTS** and **job title** on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: LS-jobs@adb.org by **17 September 2007.**

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Asian Development Bank ADB

www.adb.org

Land Administration and Management Project (LAMP 2) is funded with grant aid for Technical Assistance from the Australian Government and World Bank loan to the Philippine Government. The Technical Assistance Team is in need of

ACCOUNTING OFFICER

The candidate must have the following qualifications:

- Preferably Certified Public Accountant with 3 years experience as a bookkeeper
- Familiarity with foreign funded financial management systems
- Proficient in generally accepted accounting and financial reporting principles
- Familiarity in payroll preparation and tax remittances, particularly for personnel under a consultancy arrangement
- Familiarity with the subsidiary ledger (SL) recording and the proper SL maintenance
- Computer literate with high level of proficiency in spreadsheet and accounting software, and word processor
- Very good communications and interpersonal skills

Applicants may email their CV with cover letter and at least 2 references to palamp1@mindgate.net or fax to 9281176. The full Terms of Reference are available upon request. **Deadline for Submission: 5:00 p.m., Friday, 7 September 2007.**

Land Equity International contracts and manages the grant funding for Technical Assistance. Please log. on to www.landequity.com.au, for detailed information about the company and to www.phil-lamp.org for the project information.

LAND equity

Employment Opportunities

Senior Asset Management Assistant
(Ref. No. EXT-AS07-123(4)-OAFA-AP)

Responsibilities
The position coordinates the efficient disposal of used ADB properties, scrap materials, paper shredding operations, database system management administration and contracts administration support.

Reporting Arrangements
The position reports to the Head, Asset and Project Management Section and/or Director, Facilities and Asset Management Division.

Selection Criteria
Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level; Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Industrial Engineering, Accounting or Management; at least 5 years of relevant work experience with exposure in supervising a team; good command of written and spoken English; sound working knowledge in accounting and auditing principles pertaining to warehouse and disposal operations; sound working knowledge of multilateral organizations policies, guidelines and procedures relating to contract administration and implementation; sound working knowledge of computer applications, software, system design and workflow analysis used in multilateral organizations; adequate understanding and familiarity with different assets like computer equipment and peripherals, printing equipment, furniture and parts, building materials and supplies; and sound working knowledge of ISO best practices and procedures particularly on warehousing and disposal.

Assistant Procurement and Contracts Administrator
(Ref. No. EXT-AS07-153(4)-OAIS-PC)

Responsibilities
The position contributes to efficient and transparent administration of goods and services procurement activities for institutional requirements of Office of Information Systems and Technology and other IT-related items of the various departments and offices of ADB; works as part of the secretariat staff of the Office of Administrative Services Institutional Procurement Committee; conducts international or local competitive bidding; and coordinates work within the Unit and with other ADB work units.

Reporting Arrangements
The position reports to Director, designated Professional Staff within the unit, and/or National Officer.

Selection Criteria
Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level; Bachelor's degree with major in Business Administration, Engineering, Computer Science, Accounting, or other relevant disciplines; at least 5 years of experience in IT-related procurement of goods and services, or other comparable procurement experience; thorough knowledge of policies, guidelines and procedures in the procurement of computer software and hardware, telecommunication equipment, machinery, and related items used by multilateral development banks or equivalent institutions; knowledge of local market for relevant goods, materials management methodologies, shipping and Custom clearance, and cargo insurance; and working knowledge of computer applications used by multilateral organizations.

For more details about the positions, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting the **Ref. No.** of the position and **job title** on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: LS-jobs@adb.org by **10 September 2007.**

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Asian Development Bank ADB

www.adb.org

ALORICA Philippines — The Power Behind Service, The Power of People Who Care

JOIN ALORICA AND GET THE BREAK YOU NEED.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Technical Support Representatives
Customer Interaction Specialists
Qualifications:
College graduate or college level
Good communication skills
Willing to work flexible hours
Patient, team player and coachable

NOC Engineer

OTHER LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AVAILABLE

If interested, bring your resume with a 2x2 picture to the following addresses:
33rd floor Wynsum Corporate Plaza, F. Ortigas, Jr Rd.(formerly Emerald Ave.), Ortigas Center, Pasig City
27th floor IBM Plaza Building, Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City
or e-mail it to recruitment@manila.alorica.net
or call our Recruitment Hotline 914-3700 local 7515

External Counselor (Consultant Position)

Responsibilities
The External Counselor will provide confidential assistance to ADB staff on personal, family or work-related matters. The External Counselor shall: a) provide initial short-term counseling and assistance to ADB staff; b) refer ADB staff to appropriate specialists outside the ADB as required; c) conduct counseling sessions to groups of ADB staff when requested; d) serve as a resource person on topics within the field of Psychology; and e) serve as a facilitator of activities relevant to the needs of ADB's staff. The External Counselor will not undertake long-term counseling, psychotherapy or psychological assessment.

Selection Criteria
Candidates must: a) have a minimum of 5 years experience in providing guidance on psychological matters to professionals of diverse nationalities and cultural backgrounds; b) be based in Metro Manila and fully aware of the services and level of expertise available in Metro Manila; and c) be able to provide service in ADB for a minimum of three days a week with an additional one day a week depending on need. Candidates must also possess a recognized graduate qualification in Psychology and must be a national of an ADB member country.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 50 member countries.

The consultant position advertised is for a one-year contract, renewable at the option of ADB. Those interested must download and complete the required forms (Personal Data Form and Applicant Profile Sheet) found in ADB website (http://www.adb.org/Documents/ADBBO/Other_Notices/adb/adb-extcounselor.asp) and submit either by e-mail blamberte@adb.org, or fax 632-4585 quoting **External Counselor** in the subject line by **17 September 2007.** ADB will only contact shortlisted applicants.

Asian Development Bank ADB

www.adb.org

MOLECULAR BIOLOGISTS
FEMALE NURSES

To work in office & clinical setting in Makati.
Will learn latest Oncology treatments.
U.S. based company
Preferably with driver's license

Please submit resumé to:
TEL 893-2476; 812-9485
FAX 893-8535
EMAIL: infobiosci@aol.com

CROWN SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

We are a provider of IT driven Project Management Systems and we represent PRIMAVERA SYSTEMS of USA. We help our clients successfully manage their businesses by implementing project management systems. We are looking for competent and passionate individuals, to fill the following:

Sales Executive / Assistant (1)
- Female, at least 25 years of age
- Graduate of any 4 year course
- Computer literate, familiar with popular softwares
- Good in oral and written communication
- With pleasing & outgoing personality
- Sales experience a plus but not required
- Willing to go on field work

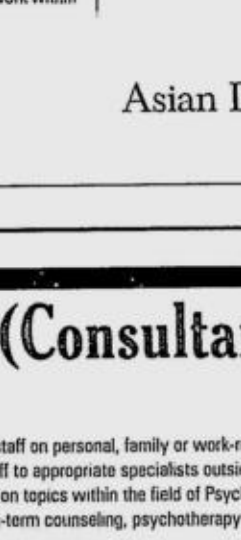
Technical Support / Product Engineer (1)
- Male, at least 20 years of age
- Bachelor's Degree in any Engineering Field
- With good analytical skills
- Can communicate well
- Willing to work overtime and on weekends
- Willing to be assigned out of town
- Programming skills in VBA and Java preferable
- Knowledge in Project Management Software Tools (e.g. MS Project, Primavera) preferable, but not required

Competitive compensation inclusive of basic salary, allowance, incentives. Please email your resume with photo to :
agascon@crownsys.com
arnel_gascon@yahoo.com

CIVIL & MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
- With at least 2 years experience

OFFICE STAFF
- Female/Single; Not more than 30 years old; Computer literate; at least 1 year experience

Apply at:
437-D A. Juan St., San Juan or call 725-1114



Where you find the best.

Read it every Sunday with the PhilippineDaily Inquirer.

JOBMarket

Colin Ng & Partners (CNP) has consistently been identified as being among the top full-service Singapore law firms by leading legal publications such as the Asia Pacific Legal 500 and AsiaLaw Profiles, for its expertise in various practice areas. CNP is an established law firm founded in 1988 in Singapore. CNP promotes a friendly working environment, encourages a work-life balance and rewards individuals based on merit.

A leading law firm in Singapore and with regional offices in Beijing and Hong Kong, CNP continues to grow and invites expressions of interest from suitable individuals to embark on a rewarding career with CNP in the following positions:

Corporate & Commercial / Corporate Finance

- Min 1 year PQE in corporate & commercial work
- Experience in corporate transactions including local & international M&As and joint ventures
- Experience in REITS, IPOs, bonds, FCCBs and funds work
- Relevant experience in corporate finance, mergers & acquisitions, corporate secretarial and compliance work

Banking & Finance

- Min 1 year PQE in banking & finance work
- Experience in all forms of financing transactions including project financing
- Experience in banking law & practice and regulatory regimes for regulated activities

Intellectual Property

- Min 1 year PQE in non-contentious intellectual property/general corporate work
- Experience in tradework & patent registration (prosecution) matter & IP portfolio management would be preferred
- Experience in corporate IP, IP advisory and licensing / general corporate matters would be an advantage

Foreign qualified lawyers proficient in English and at least one other language and with LLM qualification from Singapore would be favourably regarded. Successful candidates can look forward to exciting job challenges as well as learning and developmental opportunities with good career prospects. If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit your resumé, mobile/telephone contact numbers, recent photograph, current & expected salaries to **hr@cnplaw.com** by **12 noon, Tuesday, 4 September 2007, Singapore date and time.** Interviews for shortlisted applicants will be conducted by CNP senior management in Manila on 6 & 7 September 2007. Venue and time of interviews will be advised to shortlisted applicants.

Please visit **www.cnplaw.com** for more information on CNP.

Find your next adventure here.

Career Opportunities

- Customer Service Representatives
- Multi-Lingual Customer Service Representatives
- Senior Technical Support Engineers
- Technical Support Professionals
- Technical Support Representatives

MAKATI
26/F Robinsons Summit Center
6783 Ayala Avenue
Makati City 1226

34/F Burgundy Corporate Tower
252 Senator Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City 1200

QUEZON CITY
K-Pointe Building
23 Gilmore Street corner
Aurora Boulevard
New Manila, Quezon City 1112

Sunnymede IT Center
1614 Quezon Avenue
Quezon City

ORTIGAS
HR RECRUITMENT OFFICE
10/F One San Miguel Avenue Building
San Miguel Avenue corner Shaw Boulevard
Pasig City 1600

For inquiries, please call:
Manila (02) 817-9781
Cebu (032) 3409696

CEBU
Synergis Building
F. Cabahug Street
Mabolo, Cebu City 6000

Visit us at any of our sites.
LOG ON TO: **ph.sykes.com**

SYKES
Taking you further.
We are a family of global businesses dedicated to customer care.

Grow with us. Apply at Sitel.

We are in need of:

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
TECHNICAL SUPPORT REPRESENTATIVES

Minimum requirements:
- Above average communications skills
- Willing to work in shifting schedules
- At least 2nd year college
- 18 years old and above
- With basic computer skills (typing, MS office, Internet)

For Technical Support Representatives:
- Must have good computer background in networking, hardware and software troubleshooting
- Good in giving clear, concise and definite instructions

Join us at our JOB FAIR @ GLORIETTA Activity Center on September 3, 4 & 5, 2007

SITEL

Vision. Passion. Purpose.

Ortigas
2nd Floor, Centerpoint Building
Garnet Road, corner Julia Vargas Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines 1600
Tel. +63 2.860.0000
Email: recruitment@clientlogic.com.ph

Pioneer
15th Floor, Cybergate 1
Robinsons Pioneer
Mandaluyong City, Philippines 1550
Tel. +63 2.688.2404
Email: jobs-manila@sitel.com

Baguio
SFB Compound
Baguio City Economic Zone, Loakan Road
Baguio City, Philippines 2600
Tel. +63 74.446.7410
Email: baguiorecruitmentteam@clientlogic.com.ph

ACS
ADVANCED CONTACT SOLUTIONS, INC.

ACS ACES Profile: A Daughter's Heroism

"From all the jobs that I have had, my job here in ACS is the one that I love. I was able to settle all our family's debts and provide a house as well. Thank you ACS!"
- DIANNE FEGI

At Advanced Contact Solutions, we provide the best opportunities for personal and professional growth towards your very own goal. Tap onto your own potential and reach out to your dreams - today.

ACS has a network of six sites, 7000 employees and continues to grow and expand each and every day.

We are building a company of ACES. Join ACS!

We are now accepting applicants to the 6th and Newest Site:
ACS Araneta - Times Square St., Araneta Center, Quezon City

Our recruitment center is open to accommodate walk-in applicants from Mondays to Sundays.

Job Openings:
- Call Center Agents (Sales, Customer Service and Technical Support) and Spanish speaking agents
- Officer positions: Leadership Trainers, TQA Supervisors, QA Reps, Product Trainers, Communications Trainers, TQA Assistant
- Support Positions: Company Nurses, Facilities Engineers(electrical), HR Assistant, Finance Assistant, Finance and Budget Assistant

it is our People who make the difference.

P. J. LHUILLIER
GROUP OF COMPANIES

P.J. Lhuillier Group of Companies is a dynamic organization managing and operating businesses in diverse industries categorized into financial and insurance services, retail and trade, property and resort management, dining, communications and information technology.

We have been part of the lives of countless millions of Filipinos in various ways, and we have been recognized and respected for the care we provide to our customers. We are on our 20th year of corporate operation as Cebuana Lhuillier and still growing.

We are looking for people in the field of **Accounting, Information Technology, Marketing/ Creative and Graphic Art, Market Research, Public Relations, Organizational Communication, Business Processes, Business Development, IT Audit, Civil Engineering, Sales Insurance, Human Resources and Branch Operations.**

For a detailed list of vacant positions, please visit our company website at
www.pjlhuillier.com

MANPOWER PLANNING AND RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT
Human Resources Division
Cebuana Lhuillier Building #821 A. Spring St. cor. J.P. Rizal St. Makati City
mpr_hrd@pjlhuillier.com

Cintrée Management Service
Cebuana Lhuillier Bank, A Rural Bank
www.justjewels.com.ph
www.perapadala.com
www.pjlhuillier.com
www.lesoleil.com.ph
Cebuana Lhuillier
P. Lhuillier Insurance Agency

YOU might be the missing piece ...

As we continue to EXPAND our Local and International Operations, we are inviting candidates who wish to build a long-term career with one of the PIONEERS in the call center industry.

APPLY NOW!

LOCAL / INTERNATIONAL CSR – INBOUND / OUTBOUND - PREMIUM AGENTS (Guaranteed Above Industry Base Pay)

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Good communication skills
- Energetic, adaptable, and resilient
- Ability to multi-task

Visit us Monday – Friday, 7am-4pm at
Qinteraction Philippines Inc.,
Human Resources Department - 8th floor BPI Buendia Center
Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, 1200
Or send your resumes at HR@Qinteraction.com
www.Qinteraction.com

Qinteraction Quality Interaction is a division of RAINMAKER

CLOTHMAN KNITTING CORPORATION

SALES COORDINATOR
* Female, not over 35 years old. At least with 3 yrs. experience in Sales from reputable company
* Meticulous w/ documents, with keen eye for details and can work under pressure
* Preferably Industrial Engineering graduate from reputable school
* Computer literate

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
* Female, not over 30 years old. At least w/ 3 yrs. experience involved in production of a reputable co.
* IE graduate or any 4-year course
* With excellent oral & written communication skills
* With keen eye for details and can work under pressure
* Experience in knitting or garments is an advantage
* Computer literate

#57 Don Pedro St., Don Pedro Village
Marulas, Valenzuela, Metro Manila
E-mail: **clothman@easycall.com.ph**
Fax No. (632) 291-5686

SAMEER Overseas Placement Agency, Inc.

POEA Lic. No.269-LB-052202-R Rizal Tower 4474 Singian St. Makati Ave., Makati City
(At the back of Bamio Fiesta) Tel. Nos: 899-3912 / 899-0139 Email: rizaltwr@pldtdsl.net

In Cooperation with our Prestigious Danish Company based in QATAR

UNITED PRE-CAST CONCRETE - DOHA, QATAR

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING/DEPLOYMENT !!!

FOREIGN EMPLOYER WILL BE IN TOWN FOR INTERVIEW / HIRING

SR. EXECUTIVE ASSTS./ HR SPECIALISTS

Female, College Grad pref. Grad. Of Psychology or Behavioral Science or its equivalent; Masteral Degree is an adv. w/ at least five (5) yrs managerial exp. Highly computer literate and knows how to handle confidential information. Excellent written and oral communication skills.

PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

15	CIVIL ENGINEERS	20	TILT/HCS PRODUCTION FOREMEN
07	STOCKYARD FOREMEN	05	FINISHING/REPAIR FOREMEN
10	STEEL FIXING FOREMEN	90	STEEL FIXERS
20	QC ASSISTANTS	07	LABORATORY TECHNICIANS
20	MASONS	04	MALE NURSES

ERECTION DEPARTMENT

10	CIVIL ENGINEERS	05	ELECTRICAL FOREMEN
50	MOTOR-POOL FOREMEN	05	EXTRUDER MECH. FOREMEN
50	EXTRUDER MECH	15	AUTO ELEC./MECH.
05	INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIANS	75	WELDER FABRICATORS
10	OVERHEAD CRANE OPERATORS	10	HEAVY EQUIP. DRIVERS
10	BATCHING PLANT OPERATORS	50	CARPENTERS

Preferably with exp. In Pre-Cast, related firm, constructions

Apply Personally w/the ff: Resume, 2x2 pics, Passport, PRC, Diploma/TOR, Employment Records, etc.
We are OPEN from MONDAY to SATURDAY, 9:00AM to 5:00PM.
(FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY. NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED)

From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper:

INQUIRER

JOB Market
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer

GUESS? USA is seeking eager and passionate individuals to maintain our commitment as one of the most recognized and influential names in the apparel industry. GUESS? maintains high service standards by hiring competent personnel and promoting strategically from within. The continued dedication and commitment of our employees is the driving force behind GUESS? USA. Our talented professionals lead the company with vision of success.

Bring your own vision to life by joining the team at GUESS? USA.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!!!

STORE POSITIONS

Sales Associates
- Graduate of 2-year course or at least College level
- Single, not over 25 years old
- With pleasing personality
- At least 5'3 in height for female and 5'8 for male
- Customer-oriented and able to relate well with people

Management Trainees/Store Supervisors
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With pleasing personality
- With at least 1 year experience in a fashion retail industry
- Female, preferably single
- Not over 28 years old
- Team player, goal oriented and able to work under pressure
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

OFFICE-BASED POSITIONS

Workshop Assistants
- Graduate of Civil Engineering or Architecture
- At least 1 year experience in assembly/fabrication of modules
- Can work with minimum supervision
- With good leadership and interpersonal skills

Marketing Assistants
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- Male, 23 –30 years old
- With experience in proofing and installation of advertising materials (billboards, posters, banners, magazines, etc.)
- Willing to travel
- Can work with minimum supervision, a team player

Interested applicants may apply in person or send their resumé (with 2x2 colored photo) to:

California Clothing Inc.
150 DII Bldg.
San Vicente Road, Brgy. San Vicente
San Pedro, Laguna
Tel. Nos. 8086017 loc. 143 or 246
Email: hrd_guess@guess.com.ph
recruitment@guess.com.ph

MISYS Banking Systems

Harnessing the Network of Banking Intelligence

BE A PART...
of the world's largest and most dynamic software company today.

Release your potential.

At Misys, we believe that everything starts with talent.
As one of the world's largest and most dynamic software companies,
we are constantly looking for people with the skills, experience and attitude
to enable us to fulfill our dream:
to be admired for making the things that really matter, work better.

MISYS INTERNATIONAL BANKING SYSTEMS
10/F PHILAMLIFE TOWER,
8767 PASEO DE ROXAS,
MAKATI CITY
TEL. NO.: 8850351
FAX NO.: 8850327

Currently, we are looking to recruit top caliber professionals to fill the following positions:

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

✓Develop world-class software products for customers around the world.
✓Understand technical requirements to be able to construct the components of the software products.

- ❑RPG Analyst/Programmer
- ❑Java Analyst/Programmer
- ❑VB Analyst/Programmer
- ❑RPG Technical Designer
- ❑RPG Team Lead
- ❑Java Technical Designer
- ❑Business Analyst
  - ▪Lending
  - ▪Dealing
  - ▪Funds Transfer/SWIFT
  - ▪Trade Finance
- ❑System Tester
- ❑Quality Manager
- ❑Development Team Manager
- ❑Project Manager
- ❑Quality Manager

PRODUCT TESTING

✓Ensure that the software produced is of high quality, satisfy the clients' requirements, and is operationally fit for its business purposes.
✓Ensure that the product quotations are representative of the true effort of development.

- ❑Business Test Analyst
- ❑System Test Analyst
- ❑Software Engineer
  - ▪Automation
  - ▪Development and Centric Testing
  - ▪Installation and Deployment Testing
- ❑System Test Engineer

CUSTOMER SERVICES

✓Analyze functional and technical cases and provide a resolution through the Production Support Procedure (PSP) timescales to ensure customer satisfaction.
✓Create new Solutions to enhance the Customer Searchable database ensuring a faster service to the customers.

- ❑Support Consultant
- ❑Product Support Technical Consultant
- ❑Global Contact Center Agent
- ❑Support Manager
- ❑Customer Services Manager

If you want to open your door to a global IT career, visit:
www.jobstreet.com/ph/misys.htm for the job description.

You may also send your résumé to: **careers_ph@misys.com**
(Please indicate the position title in the subject line)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
SECRETARY
For a RESIDENCE

- Female, 25 – 35 yrs. old.
- Preferably a UP graduate.
- With 3 yrs. secretarial work experience.
- Proficient in written and oral English with superior grammar and proofreading skills.
- Excellent comprehension and listening skills.
- Highly organized and systematic.
- Proficient in Microsoft Productivity Tools (Word, PowerPoint, Excel).
- Knowledgeable in web research.
- Reporting to a female employer.

Send your Resume to: **tink.shelley@gmail.com.**

*Previous applicants need not apply.

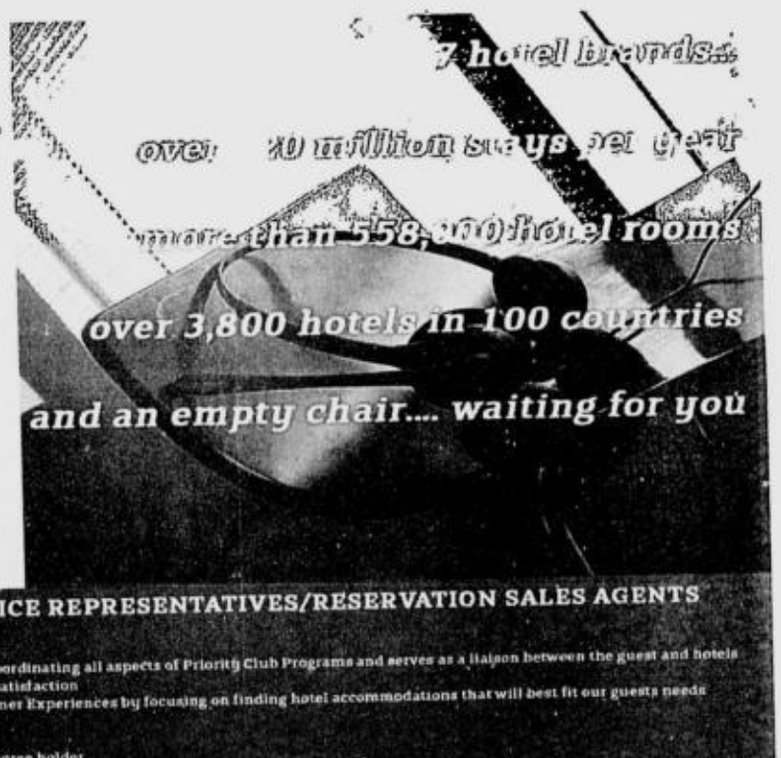
IMMEDIATE HIRING

BERNARDINO GENERAL HOSPITAL
IS IN NEED OF LICENSED:

- **PHARMACIST**
- **MED. TECH.**
- **RAD. TECH.**
- **MIDWIVES**

PLEASE CALL:
Ms. Mercy Figueroa at **935-7213**
Branch: #680 Quirino Highway,
San Bartolome, Novaliches, Q.C.
Ms. Tess Segura at **935-5262**
418-6684
Branch: Zabarte Road, Brgy. Kaligayahan,
Novaliches, Quezon City

IHG InterContinental Hotels Group



CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES/RESERVATION SALES AGENTS

Responsibilities:
Represents the company by coordinating all aspects of Priority Club Programs and serves as a liaison between the guest and hotels in order to maintain member satisfaction
Delivers Individualized Customer Experiences by focusing on finding hotel accommodations that will best fit our guests needs

Requirements:
Must be a Bachelor/College degree holder
Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills English
Customer service and/or sales experience an advantage
Education and experience in the hospitality or IT industry an advantage
Must be willing to work on a rotating shift
Fresh graduates are encouraged to apply

IHG Employees Enjoy:
- Competitive Salary Package
- Non-Taxable Allowances
- Monthly Incentives
- Attendance Bonus
- Annual Performance Bonus
- Merit Increase
- Employee Referral Incentive
- Medical Benefits
- Dental Benefits
- Life Insurance
- Personal Accident Insurance
- Advancement Opportunities
- Training and Development
- Educational Assistance

Address: 29/f RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Ave. Makati City
Websites www.ihg-careers.com, www.ihg.com
Email: phiro.resumes@ihg.com
Tel: 857 8800 Fax: 8578881

---

all flip -flops

BRAND MANAGER

Primary Functions & Responsibilities:
- Direct and work on all activities related to the brand
- Develop Customer service programs
- Develop sales training techniques
- Skilled in visual merchandising and product placement

Qualifications & Requirements:
- A Bachelor's degree from a reputable college / university; Minimum of 3 years experience in brand management / merchandising / marketing / store operations.
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills.
- Clear understanding and knowledge in all aspects of running and handling a brand or business, including preparation and analysis of business reports such as profit and loss, sales projections, open-to-buy, etc.
- Proactive and creative; strong strategic, analytical, and decision making skills.
- "Hands-on approach" to business. Very flexible and not reluctant to "roll up their sleeves" and get involved in all aspects of the business.
- Computer literate.

Stock Clerk:
- Male
- 21-28 yrs. old
- Minimum of 2 years experience as a stock clerk
- High school graduate/level
- Preferably residing in the south area (Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa)

IT Support:
- Male
- 25 yrs. old and above
- Minimum of 2 years experience in Point of Sale (POS)
- Computer course graduate
- With knowledge in Fox pro, Hardware and software trouble shoot.

Call 02-845-03-45/27 or mobile No. 09175560888

Submit your resume at

THE TROPICAL RETAIL CO., INC.
Unit 2003 20th/Flr. 88 Corporate Center
Sedeño Cor. Valero St. Salcedo Village, Makati City

CHARLEX INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

One of the leading companies in the travel and tourism industry, Charlex International Corp., a holding company of Patio Pacific Resort, and Island Star Express is looking for:

SALES EXECUTIVES (Code AE)
1. Graduate of any of the following courses:
   a. TOURISM / HRM / MARKETING
2. Female, single, not more than 29 yrs of age with good communication skills
3. At least 6 mos. experience
4. Must be resourceful, hardworking and able to do fieldwork
5. Team Player and able to meet deadlines
6. Must have the drive and determination to excel in the field of sales profession.

RESERVATION STAFF (Code RESA)
1. Graduate of any of the following courses:
   b. TOURISM / HRM
2. Male or Female, single, not more than 29 yrs. of age with good communication skills
3. With industry experience in sales and reservation
4. At least 1 yr. experience
5. Team player, hardworking and able to meet deadlines

Qualified applicants should submit comprehensive resume with 2" x 2" photo and copy of certificate of employment to:

HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
Charlex International Corporation 12/F Multinational Bancorporation Centre 6805 Ayala Avenue, Makati City Tel. No. 845-2230 or email your resume to hrd@patiopacificboracay.com

PATIO PACIFIC Island Star Express

HYUNDAI ELITE DEALER

HYUNDAI
BALINTAWAK

Urgently needs the following:

Customer Relations Officer
- Male / Female; Graduate of any four - year course.
- Demonstrate strong communication (both verbal and written), and customer service skills.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Knowledgeable in MS Office (Excel, Word & PowerPoint)
- Preferably with 1 to 2 years experience in Customer Service or equivalent.

Service Advisers
- Graduate of Mechanical Engineering or any business related course.
- With excellent human relations skill.
- Highly personable; with very pleasing personality.
- For Male, at least 5'8" tall, for female at least 5'4" tall.
- Preferably with high scholastic standing and a student leader.
- With excellent communication skills (oral and written).
- Knowledgeable in the use of internet and MS OFFICE (Word, Excel, Powerpoint).
- Possesses a valid professional driver's license.

Field Sales Executives
- Graduate of any 4-year course from a reputable university.
- Excellent academic records and outstanding leadership skills.
- Adept at client sourcing and product presentation.
- Male or Female with pleasing personality / Male at least 5'8" tall, Female, at least 5'4" tall.
- Preferably with at least 1 year experience.
- Knows how to drive and with a valid driver's license.

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are requested to mail or email their updated resume, 2 pcs. 2x2 photos and photocopy of transcript of records to:

The Human Resources Management Division

Hyundai Balintawak
EDSA, Balintawak, Quezon City

Contact Nos.
362-0101 / Cel No. 0928-7742945

email: hrmd@lausgroup.com.ph

NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 15, 2007

** Fresh graduates are also encouraged to apply*

LausAutoGroup A Passion for Cars & Customer Care

WANTED FOR EMPLOYMENT
PRESIDENT

- responsible to handle all marketing activities for real estate projects & memorial parks

Qualifications:
- BS degree in Marketing, Management, Engineering and/ or related courses
- Must have at least ten (10) years of marketing experience with sound management exposure in real estate and excellent and excellent sales production.
- Willing to accept sales quota and pressure
- Willing to be assigned in Baguio City

Note: Those who don't qualify with the requirements need not to apply.

Successful applicant will receive fixed monthly income plus allowance & an opportunity to earn unlimited income and be a Millionaire in one year. . .

Submit resume, transcript of record and other credentials at:
TOPLAND MANAGEMENT & MARKETING CORPORATION
3M Puso ng Baguio Bldg., Session Road, Baguio City
Tel. No. 074-444-4137
email: alpapcrn@skyinet.net/topland-phils@skyinet.net

Accounting Clerk

Female 25 to 35 years old
At least 2 years experience in bookkeeping
Computer Literate

Corporate Account Officer

Male or Female 22 to 30 years old
Graduate of any business course
Computer Literate

Send your RESUMÉ to:

NEW SYNERGY GARMENTS INCORPORATED
454-8165
4 Golden St., Gloria I Subd., Tandang Sora, Quezon City
newsynergy@skydsl.com.ph Look for Lanie

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY

VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market ONLINE

Opportunity knocks but once.

JOB Market

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

'How can I prioritize all the things I need to do?'

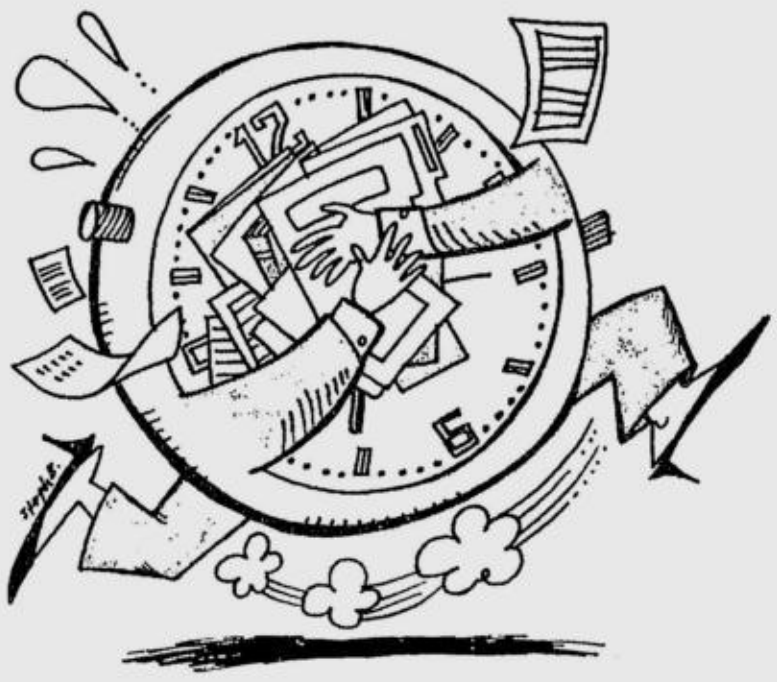
I HAVE REACHED A POINT when I think I have no control of the events in my life. I work so hard to meet my deadlines, and fail miserably most of the time. I tend to overcommit myself to do things which I end up not completing. Worse, I often forget some things I need to do. Worst, I am in the prime of my life—mid-30s. I have great ambitions in life, but truly I'm not sure what I really want.

I think I'm running a rat race that I can't win. No matter how hard I work, I always end up trying to catch up with the rest of the group.

Sometimes, I want to believe that I'm a born loser. In the maze of so many unfinished things to do, my energy starts to wane. I feel I had more time when I was younger. Can you help me prioritize the things I need to do?

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Ernie O. Cecilia



Out of time

So, you think you had more time when you were younger. Many people would wish they lived a hundred years ago when people had more time. Truly, everybody had the same time—24 hours a day—now or centuries ago.

Perhaps, we just have more options now on how to use our time than they had a hundred years ago.

One reason why we have more options now is because we tend to do things faster. We have technology to aid us in practically anything we do. Work that took a week to do in the distant past can now be done in a matter of hours. Technology has truly changed the concept of work, travel and leisure.

Rat race

You said you think you're running a rat race you can't win. A lot of people feel the same way, too. The difference between the rat race of yesteryears and the rat race today is speed. If I miss my morning flight to Cebu, I don't get upset—there's another one in an hour. Sometimes, when I miss the elevator by just a split second, I practically go nuts. I think people today are in such a hurry that they cause a lot of stress upon themselves.

Why do we drive so fast, as if our destination is moving away? Why do we work so hard to do so many things, only to end up thinking whether we did the right thing at all? Then, we suddenly realize that we don't even have time to reflect on why we live our life. What is our goal in this rat race? I think it was actress Lily Tomlin who also reminded us, "Even if you win the rat race, you are still a rat."

Timelock

In 1991, Ralph Keyes describes "timelock" in his book as that condition "when claims on our time have grown so demanding that we feel it's impossible to wring one more second out of a crowded calendar."

Sometime, somehow, busy people get into this predicament. On the other hand, people who know what they want in life and what matters most, also know that their time need not be spent just toiling in order to survive.

It seems oversimplified, but the secret is to make the right choices that will ultimately determine whether we will realize the fulfillment that we are searching for in this life.

Aims and means

Many people who find fulfillment in life simply know what they want. Few knew what they want when they started life's journey—the majority just found out along the way. What's important is that at some point in your life you must realize clearly your aims (ultimate achievements that give purpose to life) and the means through which you can attain these.

In the seminars I have been running, many people tend to confuse aims and means. Today, millions of people, mostly very young, start out by working for money. Money is never a final aim, as it has no intrinsic value. But money can be a means to help you achieve a goal that has inherent value.

Unless the difference is clear, one cannot achieve peace of mind, and will always get lost in the maze of too much toiling for nothing.

Priorities

Let your priorities guide you in apportioning your time. Have short-term and long-term goals.

Short-term goals usually provide immediate gratification. They may or may not have anything to do with your ultimate aim in life, but they require immediate action and you derive immediate rewards. After a long while, short-term goals leave nothing but pleasant memories. It's all right to spend some time for these goals.

It's nice to start a self-analysis to find out what you really want in life. This will lead you to a few long-term goals, with hopefully one dominant goal in life. Consciously or unconsciously, these aims tend to be designed to earn the love, appreciation or respect of others.

Lofty long-term goals truly give meaning and direction to life. They must be something that requires hard work, time and space. Their fruits must be sufficiently permanent as life goes by.

When we understand our life's goals, we can eliminate many of the frustrations, doubts and wrong choices that cause distress as we live our lives day by day. These goals will help you prioritize and apportion your time.

Prescriptions

Here are a few recycled prescriptions—some we have heard a thousand times before. I got most of them from Dr. Hans Selye.

- You can't be everything to everybody.
- Don't waste your time trying to befriend a mad dog.
- Admit that there is no perfection, but strive for it just the same.
- Never underestimate the delight of real simplicity in lifestyle.
- Avoid unnecessary complications.
- Consider first what is worth fighting for.
- Focus your mind on the pleasant aspects of life.
- Concentrate on things that can improve your situation.
- Forget what is irrevocably painful or ugly.
- Nothing paralyzes your efficiency than frustrations.
- When you think you are a loser, take stock of all your past achievements.
- Don't procrastinate—cut right into an abscess to eliminate the pain.
- Realize that men are not created equal, but they deserve equal opportunities.
- There will always be leaders and followers—not everybody becomes a general.
- There is no ready-made formula for success.

'I don't have time'

Let me close with a familiar scenario. Many times, we hear our little boy ask, "Dad can we play catch?" Many fathers would say, "Sorry, I don't have time."

When someone says, "I don't have time," what he is really saying is "I value something else more."

We are making choices every time. Yes, we have options all the time. The choices we make today will determine what we shall be tomorrow. The choices we make about our time and our priorities are simply a matter of deciding what matters most to us.

As for me, what matters most are love, peace and prosperity. What's yours? By the way, my calendar is usually full—I have no more time for stress!

(The author is Chair of IR Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce and Chair of ECOP's Long Range Policy Planning Committee. He is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. He can be reached at ernie_cecilia@yahoo.com)

Gospel. Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.'

Getting promoted

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

SOME WORKERS WOULD GET PROMOTED IN THEIR JOBS ONCE or several times in their entire service, while many others would have remained in the same job title or position all throughout their careers. There are many who would attach honor and dignity to job promotions and would work hard and sacrifice a lot to be able to rise above even a notch higher than the rest. I think that to aspire to and work hard for more or greater work responsibilities is sound and healthy for one's growth and maturity. In fact, one of the many frustrations most workers would have, I believe, is to be left behind and watch the colleagues climb higher in the ranks of the corporate ladder.

Jesus is aware of the basic need in us to "move up to a higher position" in our life and work. He does not condemn this fundamental desire to improve ourselves. In fact, He offers us a way and a manner of moving up which is not very popular and perhaps not very acceptable to many—the way of humility ("taking the lowest place") and truth (the fact that we are just the invited guests and not the host, not the key players, so to speak).

For the worker who believes in Jesus and accepts His ways, the first worry that occupies his consciousness is the humble and sincere performance of the duties and responsibilities of his job; what is foremost in his mind would be how best he could accomplish his work with all his energies and might; and then, he would just leave everything else, including job promotions, in the hands of the Lord who knows what is best for him. Even if this worker would not actually get promoted in his lifetime, he would one day hear his Master welcome him as a "faithful servant" in His kingdom. *(E-mail the author at mfvg@skyinet.net)*

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Anxiety over seats

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

IN THE CORPORATE WORLD, AS IN TODAY'S GOSPEL, SEATS are of paramount importance. Who gets the corner office with a view? Who are assigned to working stations without windows? In the conference room, who sits at the head of the table? Who sits at the right hand of that seat? Who takes the seat in the corner of the room? Who has no choice but to sit with his back to the door?

We may not notice it but seats represent one's position in the hierarchy, and therefore are an indication of power. It's the way things are with the world—see how in Jesus' time there were "places of honor?"—that's a reality. And taking this reality for granted, accepting it as a standard without understanding its origin or its effect on our actions, thoughts and feelings, places us in bondage. Soon we are caught in its flow—envying or idolizing the occupant of the corner office; thinking we deserve to sit at the right hand of the boss; feeling depressed when all we get for an office is a dark, windowless cubicle; losing interest when at gatherings we are given a seat nobody else wants.

Seats—positions—may give us prestige or power, but not peace. In fact, they may even rob us of peace. Peace comes upon one who works with no regard for prestige, power or position. He is not motivated by ambition or the desire to get ahead of the others, but he works in the certainty that work is its own reward. He simply works in a spirit of gratitude for his God-given gifts—his body, his breath, his capacity to work. Thus, he is freed from anxiety over seats. His labor is preserved from contamination, and wherever his place is in the workplace, he radiates peace. *(E-mail the author at teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)*

Polish the 'rainbow gems of teamwork'

By Tita Datu Puangco

L-EARNING MOMENTS

Tita Datu Puangco

COMPANIES YEAR IN AND YEAR out spend substantial amounts in team-building workshops. They often combine leisure, team exercises and reward for performance into a team activity typically done in a resort. These experiences are valuable. They build the foundation for excellent teamwork. But the results and impact in the workplace are often short-lived.

Building a team involves hard work back at the workplace where it matters, where actual execution happens. Yet the effort is worth the rewards that can be exponential in value not just to the organization but also to the individuals in the team.

High-performing teams do not happen overnight. Teams need leaders—champions who believe that leading teams fundamentally is all about getting results through people working together in synergy. Building a motivated and productive team is at the heart of every leader's responsibility.

Let me share with you the elements of great teams, using our Rainbow Gems of Teamwork. It is a checklist that you can use to determine how to improve your team. We used the colors of the rainbow as a memory aid.

Red is for leadership. Is there a clear leader in the team? Has he established a shared vision? Does the leader flex style depending on the situation?

Orange stands for common goals. Has the team crafted their common, SMART (Specific, Measurable, Actionable, Results-oriented and Time-bound) goals?

Yellow is for trust. Is there trust in the team? Do the members have the ability to share and receive ideas losing their egos when necessary? Are decisions made on the basis of the soundness of the idea and the benefit of the group rather than simply personalities?

Blue is for clear roles, contributions and norms. Does each member of the team understand and agree to the role assigned to him or her? Does everyone feel that his or her contribution counts? Are the work norms of the team agreed upon?

Green represents commitment. Do team members commit with passion to decisions and agreements made? Is there consistency in effort?

Indigo is for team resources. Are the resources necessary to achieve the goals of the team available and accessible? Violet is for continuous communication. Is there effective and efficient communications to all members of the team? Does everyone take responsibility for communications?

Recently, I was reading a very insightful and timely book sent to me by Herman Gyr, one of our consulting technology partners based in Palo Alto, California. In the book entitled "Innovation: The Five Disciplines for Creating What Customers Want" by Carlson and Wilmot, the authors described successful innovation teams as practicing the "three-legged stool of collaboration." They present a new perspective of team elements.

The three legs are shared strategic vision, unique, complementary skills and shared rewards. They also cited respectful communication as the glue that holds the three legs together.

Shared strategic vision is all about creating a clear, compelling vision as a force for change that pulls the team forward. It is imagining a project or initiative as something already achieved and completed. For a leader to forge a team there has to be a vision with a higher purpose that brings them together. The vision has to be aligned with the organization's mission, simply stated and inclusive of all team members.

The second leg is unique, complementary skills. Every member must feel that he or she has a significant role or contribution to make. When a member's role is unclear commitment dives. Teams are enriched by the collective wisdom of the members as they engage in creating value together bringing in their distinctive skills. Members must welcome diversity as each member provides unique insights to the project at hand.

The last leg but equally important are shared rewards. Rewards need not always be monetary. It could be a sense of achievement or fulfillment or a plaque of appreciation or a bonus. Or sometimes a simple thank you will do. All forms of recognition are important. Shared rewards are based on actual team achievement and vice versa, if not successful there maybe no rewards at all.

The authors also talked about recognizing disappointments as well. When the team did their best and failed, leaders have to appreciate the effort that went into the work. Often, the initial defeat may turn out to be the catalyst that leads to solutions and eventually to success.

Once again we invite our readers to e-mail us and enroll for the free distance learning program certificate of "Techniques for Self Leadership."

This article on teamwork is the seventh of the series of 10. Those who missed the past six columns, you can download them at the Ancilla website: www.ancillaedc.com.ph or fax request at 892-2902.

(The author is CEO of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, a training and consulting company specializing in strategy management, leading change, human resource systems, leadership and enterprise training. Feedback at l-earning moments @ancillaedc.com.ph or fax 892-2902.)

How to look slimmer in corporate attire

By Ma. Esther Salcedo-Posadas
Contributor

DESIGN, PROPORTION AND BALANCE are keywords in creating a slimmer and sleeker look. Following are a few tips on looking a few pounds lighter: Go for tailored clothes. With a bulky figure, it is most tempting to wear loose attire in order to hide the fat. However, bigger clothes actually create the illusion of size. It is better to visit your dressmaker and ask her to design a suit that fits your size. With a little tailoring, your attire will look shapely and less bulky.

Try vertical lengths. One way to create a slim illusion is to maximize the use of vertical lines. This could mean choosing a dress pattern with vertical inclinations or perhaps designing a longer coat that does not end at the waistline. For example, tunic lengths are good if you wish to move the attraction away from the tummy area. However, if you are short in height, there will be a need to balance the style as well.

Avoid belts. While a little tailoring is best, putting too much emphasis on the abdomen with the use of a tight belt is not acceptable. A belt or other similar waist adornments merely bring more attention to the wide area.

Do not use big patterns. A large print on your dress will simply create the illusion of more bulk. Avoid large print designs like a plague.

Use texture appropriately. You can use fabric with some texture on areas that need more emphasis. For example, you may wish to wear a blouse or coat that has more weaving in order to distract the eye from your hips.

It is definitely harder to dress well when you have put on some pounds.

Losing the weight, at least for many people, is even more difficult.However, there is no better way to get back on track than to strategize on your weight loss plan. After all, you can only do so much in trying to create the illusion of slimness. In the end, it is also your health that matters.

(The author trained on image consulting with Elegance in Style in Maryland USA. She also attended a fashion design course at the Academy of Art College in San Francisco.)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB Market LIBRE

CAREER EXPO2007

3 - 5 SEPTEMBER, 2007 | GLORIETTA ACTIVITY CENTER

• SEPTEMBERFEST CAREER EXPO 2007 - COMPANY PROFILES •

care and transaction processing needs through 65,000 associates in 28 countries. Sitel provides world-class solutions from on-shore, nearshore and offshore locations across 145+ facilities throughout North America, South America, EMEA and Asia Pacific. Sitel's award-winning services provide clients with the strategic insight, scale and diversity of offerings to ensure the best return on their customer investment. Sitel is privately held and majority owned by Canadian diversified company, Onex Corporation

SL Temps
SL Temps, a division of Searchers and Staffers Corp., caters to client needs such as project hiring, manpower service contracting, human resources and payroll outsourcing, promo and merchandizing, and hiring for short-term or on-call assignments. It started operation in November 1995 and have been servicing top players in various industries such as telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, life and non-life insurance, banking and credit card, information technology, call centers, food and beverage, educational institutions, manufacturing, courier and logistics, apparel, and appliance and cosmetic retailing.

SM-Mart
SM had its beginnings in 1958, when Mr. Henry Sy, Sr. opened the first Shoemart store in Rizal Ave. in downtown Manila. The store boasted of quality merchandise, innovative visual display, and creative salesmanship. Through these factors, SM was able to gain a loyal following of customers, which opened doors for its growth. The company expanded its shoe store chain in the sixties to accommodate the increasing demands of its customers. With its natural expansion into Ready-To-Wear and soft goods, SM marked many milestones with the opening of several stores across the country. Today SM Department Store has grown into a dynamic group of stores which lead the pack in the retail industry.

St. Peter Group of Companies
A wholly owned Filipino group of companies focused on its core competence –Death-Care. It advocates that families prepare for the certainties of life with its Pre-Need Memorial Plans. The company provides world-class facilities coupled with quality DeathCare service excellence in over 200 St. Peter Branches and St. Peter Chapels. With 36 years of experience in the industry, it has been servicing a wide range of satisfied clients and has been providing meaningful jobs to Filipinos. St. Peter Group of Companies values being God-centered, excellence, teamwork, integrity, customer service, employee satisfaction and professionalism. It is a partner in nation building and wants to UNLAD d' Bayan!

Sykes
Sykes is the leading and first-recognized support center in the Philippines that provides customer relations solutions to Fortune 500 leading international companies in the areas of electronics and telecommunication, information and technology, retail and consumer products, financial and customer service. The company specializes in providing flexible, high quality and customer support outsourcing solutions with the emphasis on inbound technical support and customer service. Headquartered in Tampa, Florida, with customer contact management centers throughout the world, Sykes provides its services through multiple communication channels encompassing phone, e-mail, web and chat, utilizing its integrated onshore/offshore global mode. Sykes serves its clients through two geographic operating segments: the Americas (United States, Canada, Latin America, India and the Asia Pacific Rim) and EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa).

Teledevelopment
TeleDevelopment Services, Inc. or TDS has been in existence in the United States since 1991. TDS assists clients with global contact center solutions through one or more of its four major operating divisions. In 1994, TDS ventured here in Manila, Philippines with the following services: training, agent management and recruiting, consulting TDS specializes in the recruitment and placement of domestic and international candidates for all levels of management positions within the customer contact industry.

Teleperformance
Teleperformance is a world leader in telemarketing and contact centers outside the United States. Its infrastructure, its strengths, its results, and its strategy bear out this fact. Teleperformance Philippines is a member of the SR Teleperformance Group. Founded in Paris, France in 1978, it is a pioneer and global leader in Customer Relationship Management services. With presence across four continents, SR Teleperformance has the most widespread network of contact centers in the CRM outsourcing industry. It operates 36, 900 computerized workstations from over 179 contact centers across 36 countries and conducts programs in 30 different languages on behalf of a diversified client based of major international companies.

Teletech
Its 25 year history enabled Teletech to become one of the largest global providers of onshore, offshore and work-from-home business process outsourcing (BPO) services with a customer management focus. Teletech helps Global 1000 companies sustain and enhance their strategic capabilities, improve quality and lower costs by designing, implementing and managing their critical front and back office processes. Teletech provides 24x7, 365 day fully integrated global solutions that span people, process, proprietary technology and infrastructure for clients and governments in the automotive, broadband, cable, financial services, healthcare, logistics, media and entertainment, retail, satellite technology, travel wireline and wireless industries. Teletech has 47,000 employees in 17 countries.

Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation
Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation (TMP) is owned by the Metrobank Group, Toyota Motors Corporation and Mitsui & Co., Ltd. The company believes that it is the people who create culture. When an individual joins the Toyota Team, he embarks on a new way of life, guided by the values and principles that define Toyota. TMP fully embraces the Toyota Way, the core system that marks Toyota as a unique business entity and unifies all Toyota affiliates around the world, regardless of location, ownership structure, specific operation or local culture. The Toyota Way is an ideal, a standard and a guiding beacon for the global Toyota organization. It expresses the beliefs and values shared by all team members. Toyota's vision is to bring lives together, to help build a nation and to bridge our country to the global community.

Trendworks International Corp. (SKECHERS)
The exclusive Philippine distributor of global lifestyle footwear leader – SKECHERS USA. With a well-established nationwide distribution network for its products and an aggressive marketing and business development approach, the company continues to experience unprecedented growth amidst economic difficulty and increasingly stiff competition. Trendworks International Corporation continually looks for highly talented individuals and driven individuals to reinforce its ever-growing team of professionals. We believe that in the heart of our continued success is the unwavering commitment and passion of all our team members.

U-BIX Corporation
U-Bix Corporation is the Philippines' leading office systems services provider and is among the Philippine Top 1,000 Corporations. Its objective is to provide a 'one-stop shop' option to anyone who needs office equipment, furniture, and office-related products and services. Founded in February 11, 1974 by Atty. Edilberto B. Bravo and the late Atty. Enrique M. Belo it has evolved from a company of 20 people into the country's largest integrated office systems provider, generating revenues of over P1 billion with a workforce of 800 employees and a network of 24 branches all over the Philippines.

Vision-X Inc.
VXI began operating as a provider, of outsourced contact services in the ethnic, in-language market segment. While it continues to be unique in service of all ethnic market segments, its mainstream English-speaking service dominates the total project portfolio today. Since its inception, it has fielded millions of customer interactions in many languages of projects for both large multinationals and small local clients. It was named as the fastest growing outsourcer in the US (Rising Star rankings), with over 2000 seats and 5 centers around the globe. VXI operates world-class centers in the US, Philippines and China. Its integrated inbound and outbound contact centers support customer service, sales and e-mail solutions for its blue chip clients.

West Corporation
Founded in 1986 and headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, West Corporation is a billion dollar organization with over 28,000 employees located throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. West is a leading provider of outsourced communications for many of the world's largest companies. These companies rely on West to help them grow their business through its superior inbound, outbound, interactive, internet, collections, and worldwide conferencing services. Clients include some of the most respected names in a wide range of industries including: financial services, telecommunications, utilities, heath care, pharmaceutical, insurance, and consumer packaged goods. In 2003, increased business demands from one of West's existing clients prompted the opening of its newest international contact center in Manila, West Contact Services, Inc.

SEPTEMBERFEST
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOB Market LIBRE
CAREER EXPO2007
SEPTEMBER, 2007 GLORIETTA ACTIVITY CENTER

OFFICIAL COMPUTER PROVIDER OF JOBMARKET ONLINE

JOB Market ONLINE.ph | WAVE 89.1 | Jam | DZRH | 90.7 LOVE RADIO | Tumbox | Bandera | the max | GMA | MICRODATA | INQUIRER.net | Ayala Malls | gloriette

Where you find the best.

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

JOB Market

B&M GLOBAL SERVICES MANILA, INC.

At B&M Global Services Manila, we offer you a chance to connect with a global network of professionals who are among the best at what they do. We are a forerunner in the captive legal outsourcing industry in the Philippines, with an operation that continues to expand in response to emerging opportunities. We are currently looking for:

Marketing Communications Specialists

As part of the Global Marketing & Communications team, the person hired will draft copy for the Firm's promotional materials in multiple formats, including print, web and electronic media. He/she will be responsible for the completion of ad hoc projects, and respond to document editing and proofing requests. He/she will also assist in developing and upholding marketing and communication standards at the global, regional and local levels.

He/she must have the following credentials:

- Bachelor's degree in Business, Marketing, Communications, Journalism, or English
- Minimum of 3 years experience in communications, marketing or public relations writing business communications in a journalistic style
- Excellent written & oral communication skills in English
- Advanced skills in information research and retrieval
- Highly organized and attentive to details
- Advanced skills in Word and PowerPoint
- Strong commitment to outstanding client service
- Ability to work with and communicate effectively with people from different cultures
- Experience working in legal or professional services environment preferred

Billing Coordinators

The person hired will join the Billing & Finance Support Centre which provides support to a variety of business and financial processes such as billing, accounting and matter management to various offices of the Firm in Asia Pacific, North America and Europe. The job involves analyzing of reports generated from the online accounting system and drafting of billing statements. The position also entails working closely with foreign counterparts as well as coordinating with key people from various levels of the organization.

He/she must have the following credentials:

- Bachelor's degree with units in Business or Accounting
- Highly organized and attentive to details
- Strong commitment to outstanding client service
- Must be flexible and willing to work in rotating shifts including graveyard schedule

Interested applicants may send their resume to bmgsm.hr@bakernet.com or see us at the Job Market Career Expo 2007, Glorietta Activity Center from September 3 to 5.

B&M Global Services Manila, Inc. is a subsidiary of Baker & McKenzie International, a Swiss verein of member law firms around the world. Another B&M Global Services Manila provides to Baker & McKenzie International and is engaged in the practice of law.

mission alliance
Norwegian Mission Alliance Philippines

Unit 403-404, Taipan Place,
Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center
Metro Manila, Philippines 1605

JOB OPENINGS

NORWEGIAN MISSION ALLIANCE PHIL. INC., a diaconial mission organization, providing sponsorship for more than 10,000 children in Metro Manila, Rizal, Laguna, Bulacan, Mindoro and Marinduque is in need of qualified, experienced and committed personnel to be part of its Child and Youth Centered Community Development Program. Positions opened are:

Program Facilitator
- Graduate of a 4-year Social Science Course such as Social Work, Community Development, Development Studies.
- Has at least 2 – 4 years experience working in child sponsorship programs
- Experience in organizing youth and community volunteers is an advantage
- Has the capacity to train
- Willing to be assigned outside Metro Manila
- Must be a Confessing Christian

Senior IT Specialist:
- 25-35 years old
- Male
- 2-5 years experience in Network Administration
- High Level of expertise on the following:
  - All network and network support technologies such as VLAN, LAN, VPN, and WLAN
  - Windows Servers and Linux Servers platform (preferably Red Hat)
  - Windows Server Administration like Active Directory, DNS, DHCP, IAS, ISA
  - Disaster and Recovery Systems - Administration of softwares like Veritas and Acronis on Linux and Windows Platform
- Familiar or equivalent experience working with:
  - Web Development and support on SQL, PHP
  - Branded Servers like IBM preferably
  - Cisco Systems
  - support any brand of Laptops and Desktops
  - other network devices
- Certification/s is an advantage.
- Good Communication and Documentation Skills
- Lotus Domino Knowledge or experience is an advantage.

Junior IT Specialist:
- College Graduate of 2-5 years IT related course
- Male, 22–28 years of age
- Must have appropriate experience of 2 years preferably in the following field:
  - Computer Assembling/Troubleshooting
  - Installation and updating of Hardware and Software
  - Network set-up (cabling and etc.) and configuration
  - IT security Management
  - Information System and IT Hardware
- Good Knowledge of:
  - Windows 2000, XP, Server 2000 and Server 2003
  - Networking, TCP/ IP Protocols and related services in Windows 2003, DNS, DHCP etc.
  - Microsoft Office Products
  - Linux products and Environment (is an advantage)
  - Lotus Domino (is an advantage)
  - Hardware environment (PC and Servers)
  - Ability to listen, to consult and share information and ideas
  - Capacity to focus on priorities and to organize work to deliver on time.
  - Open-minded and Team Player
- Good Oral and written communication
- Willing to travel around Metro Manila and nearby province

Junior Accountant:
- Graduate of a 4-year Accounting or Business course
- Has at least 2 years experience in bookkeeping
- CPA passer not a requirement.
- Not more than 30 years old

Interested applicants may send their resumé to **screening@nma.org.ph** not later than September 15, 2007

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOB Market

INQUIRER LIBRE

CAREER EXPO 2007

3 - 5 SEPTEMBER, 2007 | GLORIETTA ACTIVITY CENTER

• SEPTEMBERFEST CAREER EXPO 2007 - COMPANY PROFILES •

Accenture
Accenture is one of the world's leading management consulting, technology services and outsourcing companies, committed to delivering innovation that helps clients become high-performance businesses. With over 158,000 people in 49 countries, few organizations are able to match our industry knowledge and process expertise, our global resources or our proven track record. That's probably why we've worked with over two thirds of the Fortune Global 500. In the Philippines, we have over 12,000 professionals in the Manila Delivery Centre who deliver systems integration, application outsourcing, infrastructure outsourcing, as well as voice and nonvoice business process outsourcing services to clients across a diverse range of industries in Europe, Asia and North America. In an innovative and collaborative team environment which nurtures talent, encourages training, provides career growth and rewards accomplishments, our people in the Philippines focus on the delivery of transformational solutions – helping clients realize their vision and achieve high performance.

Access Worldwide
Access Worldwide is a leading marketing company that provides a variety of sales, education and communication services. Founded in 1983, the company currently enjoys more than a 700-strong labor force in five locations nationwide and has developed an extensive client list that includes pharmaceutical manufacturers, telecommunications providers, insurance companies, financial institutions and consumer products companies.

Advanced Contact Solutions, Inc.
ACS is the pioneer and leader in contact centers and business process outsourcing in the Philippines providing added value services to its clients through a variety of inbound/outbound services. The company was first organized in 1996 and commenced commercial operations in 1998 and became one of the trailblazers in the Philippine call center industry. ACS is ISO-certified and is the first publicly listed call center in the Philippine Stock Exchange.

Allied Banking Corporation
Allied Bank was incorporated under the laws of the Republic of the Philippines on April 11, 1977, and granted by the Central Bank of the Philippines the Certificate of Authority to operate as a commercial bank on May 20, 1977. It was formally opened for business on June 2, 1977. On August 19, 1977, it was authorized to operate an expanded foreign currency deposit unit (FCDU) and in December 1981 granted to operate as expanded commercial bank or universal bank. As of December 29, 2005, Allied Bank was the 7th largest private domestic commercial bank in the country in terms of total resources, and the 9th largest in terms of capital. Aside from its 283 domestic branches/offices, Allied Bank has 2 off-shore branches in Bahrain and Guam; wholly owned subsidiary in the United Kingdom; a majority owned subsidiary in Hong Kong; a majority owned commercial bank subsidiary in Xiamen, Fujian Province, People's Republic of China, and an affiliate commercial bank based in San Francisco, California, USA with a branch in Guam. Representative offices were established in Australia, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore and Spain.

Alorica Philippines
Alorica Philippines provides call center management services to both local and US markets. Alorica's local experience covers the telecommunications, consumer food, banking, and pharmaceutical industries where service levels and response times are most critical. The company's US clients are Fortune 500 companies in the PC manufacturing, networking and in the consumer electronics industry. They provide customer service and technical support to their customers through voice, email and chat consistently meeting if not exceeding service levels. In total, the call center employs close to two thousand employees and services more than 1 million transactions every month through different channels.

Ambergris Solutions
Ambergris Solutions began commercial operations in 2001 with a vision to provide exceptional customer care services from the Philippines. The company has grown rapidly since then, expanding its size and competencies. The company now operates three contact centers and its own dedicated training facility in thriving business districts in Manila. It is recognized as a pioneer not only in the Philippine call center industry, but is also acknowledged as a key player in the global outsourcing stage. Recently, international industry leader Telus Corporation invested into Ambergris, increasing its strength, knowledge and capability, as well as clearly demonstrating its growing global reputation.

AMA Group of Companies
The AMA Group of Companies is a Filipino-owned enterprise providing excellent products and services to its clients. Through its affiliate and subsidiary companies, the group is engaged in diverse types of business and services which are clustered in five major divisions: AMA Education System, information technology services, land infrastructure/power distribution, financial services, and the ACA group of companies.

APAC Customer Services, Inc.
A leading provider of customer interaction solutions for market leaders in communications, financial services, insurance, healthcare, logistics, and travel and hospitality. APAC partners with its clients to deliver custom solutions that enhance bottom line performance. Currently, the company employs approximately 10,000 people and maintains 27 customer interaction centers. APAC is the fourth largest domestic provider of outbound and fourth largest domestic provider of inbound customer relationship management services in the United States.

Apple & Eve
A dynamic and interactive specialty brand for women aged 20 and up. Its style and designs are feminine and flirtatious for the more fashion forward and trend conscious. Apple & Eve apparel ranges from tops and tees to basic shirts, blazers and perfect fit pants. It has outlets in SM Southmall, SM Fairview, SM Pampanga, SM Manila, Robinsons Galleria, Alabang Town Center, SM Marilao, Robinsons Metroeast, SM Bacoor, Market!Market!, SM Megamall, SM Sta. Mesa, SM Sta. Rosa, and SM Mall of Asia.

B&M Global Services Manila, Inc.
B&M Global Services Manila offers a chance to connect with a global network of professionals who are among the best at what they do. The company is forerunner in the captive legal outsourcing industry in the Philippines.

Binalot Fiesta Foods, Inc.
Binalot aims to be the number one truly Filipino Fast food restaurant in the Philippines which promotes Filipino humor, values, and culture. From its first stall in Shaw, two other outlets were opened in Greenbelt and Jupiter which graduated from a stall to a counter type outlet. A few months later, SM offered Binalot an opportunity to do business in SM Southmall and another one in SM Megamall. With the number of outlets increasing to five (5) in two (2) years time, a full commissary was set up to service needs of the operating outlets. To date, Binalot has 31 existing stores and continuously growing.

Branders.com
Branders.com is the leading online promotional products company in the world serving over 34 countries. It started in 1999 with an experienced management team and the support of some of the leading venture capital firms in the Unites States, Branders proved to be an early success story. Brandersí unique ìhigh tech, high touchî approach combining cutting-edge technology and top quality sales representatives proved to be a powerful driver of growth.

DedicatedRep.com
Dedicated Rep Inc. was founded on the belief that any business can benefit from BPO. Initially, Dedicated Rep was created to provide entrepreneurs and small to medium sized businesses with a reputable ISO Certified cost effective means of outsourcing business tasks. Virtual Office Assistants and Virtual Secretaries have been providing savvy business people all over the world with the support they need to run their enterprises more profitably and efficiently for as many as ten years now. Dedicated Rep operates call centers that proved outsourced customer relationship management and service tasks, information processing tasks, and even help desk support and live chat support. Make no mistake about it, Dedicated Rep has the technology and know how to provide your company or organization with the most sophisticated technological reporting and metrics while maintaining the highest possible level of quality of services.

DMCI Homes
DMCI Homes is the country's only triple A builder-developer that provides young upwardly mobile families with modest income with high-quality homes in fully serviced, centrally located communities. DMCI has not only built structures or building, it has also built some of the most prestigious and recognized landmarks around the country. DMCI is behind the construction of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, the Makati Shangri-la Hotel, Ayala Tower One, Oakwood Premier and even Rockwell Center. The company's achievements aren't limited to the Philippines, as DMCI was also the lead project contractor for the Grand Palace of the Sultan of Brunei.

ePERFORMAX BPO and Contact Centers
ePerformax Philippines is a privately held corporation established through a partnership formed between ePerformax U.S. and Transnational Diversified Group (TDG) of the Philippines. As one of the first contact centers to venture into the Philippines in 2002, the partnership with TDG was integral to the company's ability to form a high-performance contact center to provide U.S. based businesses with offshore outsourcing services. TDG is a 30-year old Philippine company that invested in 28 companies which employ over 8,000 people in service-oriented positions who are exported to companies such as Disney Cruise Line. TDG has leveraged its knowledge of local culture and customs, labor laws and hiring and training practices to create its own recruiting, hiring and training practices in order to find agents that are truly service oriented and capable of meeting its client's business objectives.

eTelecare Global Solutions
eTelecare is the worldís most honored call center company and the largest based in Asia, is one of the leaders in outsourcing customer service functions to the Philippines. eTelecare Global Solutions has more than 30 clients and revenues of over $125 million. The company has eleven call centers, four in the Philippines and seven in the US, with a total of more than 8,000 employees. The company won a 19 industry awards including four consecutive Best Outsourcer Awards at the International Call Center Management Conference & Exhibition, as well as consecutive Customer Relationship Management Excellence Awards and Marketing Via Phone Quality Awards from Customer Inter@ction Solutions magazine. Recently, eTelecare was awarded by the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines as 2005 The Employer of the Year.

Fujitsu Computer Products Corporation of the Philippines
Fujitsu Computer Products Corporation of the Philippines (FCPP) was established on February 1, 1995. It became the 65th overseas subsidiary of Fujitsu Limited, a leading provider of internet-focused information technology solutions and one of the world's leading manufacturers of Hard Disk Drives. Considering the need for a clean environment, FCPP established its factory in an 8.4 hectare land amidst the pristine surroundings of Carmelray Industrial Park in Canlubang, Calamba, Laguna. Using the latest technologies, FCPP mass produced not only Hard Disk Drives (HDD) but its key components like the Magneto-Resistive (MR) Heads and Head Stack Assemblies utilizing Fujitsu's leading edge production systems. Considered by PEZA as a Pioneering activity, FCPP expanded rapidly in its first 5 years of operation exporting its products to the United States, Europe, Japan and Southeast Asian countries. In addition, FCPP was also accorded the Hall of Fame Award by PEZA for obtaining the Outstanding Employer Award for 3 consecutive years (1998, 1999 and 2000).

Guess?
In June 1992, California Clothing, Inc. was organized in the Philippines by two major stockholders: Victor Siasat, a Chinese-Filipino, and Michel Stamati, a French immigrant. By November 1992, California Clothing, Inc. has opened its first store in Landmark. By the end of 1994, Guess? listed number 694 in the Top 1000 Philippine Corporations. By the end of 1995, there were 43 Guess? stores nationwide. The expansion ranged from Manila all the way to Subic Freeport, Baguio, Batangas City and Lucena in Southern Luzon; and Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, and Iloilo in the Visayas and Mindanao. The expansion also branched into Baby Guess-Guess Kids with tremendous success. Lifestyle Concept – Guess? is not a jean company. Because of the success of the original innovation, Guess? may be categorized as a denim collection. Built upon a tradition of quality and unconventional design, Guess? now offers diverse lines of casually-elegant clothing and surrounding basic denim. A customer is able to reflect the Guess? lifestyle, head-to-toe with apparel and accessories.

HSBC GROUP
The world's local bank. Headquartered in London, HSBC is one of the largest banking and financial services organisations in the world. HSBC's international network comprises around 10,000 offices in 82 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. HSBC has a global customer base of 125 million supported by over 312,000 employees across the globe. Through an international network linked by advanced technology, including a rapidly growing e-commerce capability, HSBC provides a comprehensive range of financial services: personal financial services; commercial banking; corporate, investment banking and markets; private banking; and other activities.

IBM Daksh Business Process Services Philippines, Inc.
IBM Daksh, a wholly-owned company of IBM Corporation, is a leading and multi-awarded provider of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) solutions with over 20,000 employees spread out across its India and Philippine operation centers. IBM Daksh provides a variety of customer care solutions and was heralded as the ìContact Center Vendor of the Yearî in Asia Pacific by Frost and Sullivan for two consecutive years. The company offers competitive salary and benefits package, career advancement opportunities and professional development, including Six Sigma training for all its employees. IBM, hailed by BusinessWeek as the 3rd Most Valuable Brand in 2006, is the world's largest information technology company and the 8th largest corporation in the world. IBM is celebrating 70 years in the Philippines and, with the huge growth and expansion of IBM Daksh, it is expected to increase its presence in the country.

IBM Solutions Delivery Inc. - Application Services
IBM is at the forefront of leading technologies and is the leading patent holder in the world. The company provides consulting, delivery expertise, advanced technologies and accelerators in solution design, development and integration. From delivery centers around the world, it assembles teams with the technical and business expertise to offer clients innovative solutions to their business issues. IBM Solutions Delivery, (ISD) is a wholly-owned subsidiary and delivery arm of IBM Philippines. The Application development practice provides best-of-breed custom solutions enabling clients to achieve competitive advantage and cost savings. It leverages innovative technologies, techniques and assets for outstanding solution design and delivery.

ICT Marketing Services Inc: The CRM Solutions Company
ICT Marketing Services, Inc. is a leading globally integrated supplier of customer relationship management (CRM) solutions. We provide a comprehensive suite of sales, service and marketing solutions designed to help clients identify, acquire, retain, service, measure and maximize the lifetime value of their customer relationships. More than 12,000 ICT Marketing Services, Inc. employees at over 40 contact centers in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, Mexico, the Caribbean and the Philippines support domestic and multinational corporations and institutions, primarily in the financial services, insurance, telecommunications, healthcare, information technology, media, energy and hospitality industries. ICT's diversified suite of CRM solutions, combined with our value-added focus and flexible near-shore and offshore operations, provides clients with optimal scalability and choice.

InterContinental Hotels Group
InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) is an international hotel company that always tries to see the world through the eyes of others. We own and manage a portfolio of well-respected brands recognized the world over. The big picture is 7 hotel brands, over 126 million stays per year, more than 540,000 rooms and over 3,650 hotels across more than 100 countries. An industry pioneer, we are the largest hotel company by number of rooms and manage the world's largest hotel loyalty program – Priority Club Rewards – with 26 million members to date. IHG's portfolio includes a variety of well-known and popular hotel brands that allow us to respond to most hotel development opportunities. Guests who move up and down the hotel brand ladder according to their travel priorities will find a hotel to meet their needs from within our portfolio. The IHG operating system is the unique combination of tools, processes and brands that deliver guests into our hotels and then drive returns from those hotels. Our system is powerful, with over 3,800 hotels providing 126 million room nights per year, a global sales team of over 9,000 people, popular websites and excellent reservations systems.

Link2Support Inc.
Link2Support Inc. (L2S), part of Synnex Corporation (NYSE: SNX), is a world-class technical solutions provider and contact center that delivers voice, email, tech chat support and other high-value technical services to clients across the globe. With its strategic direction geared towards servicing technology, both in terms of support and new project initiatives, L2S has gained the domain knowledge and expertise in the industry that has earned the trust and confidence of its customers. L2S has a total of 2000++ employees in three government accredited IT Parks around the Philippines (Manila, Cagayan de Oro, and Davao City). Cutting across different US, Europe and Asian time zones, Link2Support is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Marie France
Marie-France Bodyline International, Inc. (MFBI) introduces a fast, easy, and effective way of achieving a slimmer, beautiful figure and a new, healthy life style. MFBI pioneered the introduction of a systematic program using internationally based technology combined with sensible nutritional guides for slimming. Operations in the Philippines began in 1985 and have expanded since then with branches in Alabang, Binondo, Quezon City, Makati, Ortigas, Shaw, Cebu City and Pampanga. The Marie France Group of Companies is composed of the following offices: Marie-France Bodyline International, Inc., Facial Care Centre, Svenson International and Pacific Asian Advertising Specialists, Inc.

Misys
Misys International Banking Systems is the world's fastest growing trade services solution. Misys Manila, which started in 1990, now covers product development, product support and sales for all the main banking products. Misys has a vast network of R&D centers of excellence in Asia, USA and Europe. Providing powerful workflow management, e-commerce and document handling capabilities, Misys is licensed to over 170 banks worldwide.

NCO Group/RMH Teleservices Asia Pacific, Inc.
NCO is the industry leader in providing clients with successful business process outsourcing (BPO) solutions. Since NCO's inception in 1926, its goal has remained constant — to reduce client operating expenses, increase cash flow, and improve their customers' experience. NCO operates a global network of over 100 operations centers running on a centralized data platform with the flexibility to respond to a rapidly changing marketplace, and to scale operations to meet client specifications. NCO's clients are empowered to successfully address immediate business needs, while enabling long-term growth across the entire customer life cycle.

PeopleSupport
PeopleSupport, co-founded by Lance Rosenzweig in 1998, was built on his vision for the next generation of customer care. With the advent of the Internet, Lance saw the opportunity that companies now had to interact with their customers through many more communication channels—voice, email, web collaboration/live text chat, and self-service. However, there was a support this interaction and manage all the contact information. Lance created PeopleSupport around the need to address this void in multi-channel customer care. PeopleSupport emerged as the innovator and leader in outsourced online customer care—e-mail, web collaboration and live text chat. It then integrated voice and self-service with the addition of our state-of-the-art global call centers to provide a full customer care solution.

PJ Lhuiller Group
The company owns the country's biggest pawnshop chain. The PJ Lhuiller Group name is synonymous with financial and insurance services, retail and trade, property and resort management, and communications and information technology, together with its main business of providing access to funds to the ordinary Filipinos through its pawnshop network. And it attributes is continuing success to stable financial resources, sound management, excellent customer service, committed and dedicated employees and, of course, its loyal customers. After all, the PJ Lhuillier Group believes that there is no company without its customers, thus highlighting its slogan - "Walang Kapantay Magpahalaga."

PLDT
PLDT is the leading telecommunications provider in the Philippines. Through its three principal business groups – fixed line, wireless, and information and communication technology – PLDT offers the largest and most diversified range of telecommunications services across the Philippines' most extensive fiber optic backbone and fixed line, cellular and
satellite networks.

QINTERACTION PHILIPPINES, INC.
QINTERACTION PHILIPPINES, INC. is an integrated customer interaction center that specializes in providing innovative outsourced customer care and customer development solutions for a wide range of recognized as well as start up companies in both local and international markets. Established in 1999, Qinteraction is managed and owned by a combination of local and foreign senior international business and technology experts. The Qinteraction management team represents over fifty years of experience in the highly involved business processes and cost-effective technologies of handling and managing high-volume inbound and outbound call center services. Qinteraction utilizes this experience along with its market adaptability, enabling it to work closely with both the North American and Philippine markets.

Security Bank & Trust Company
Established in 1951 as Security Bank & Trust Company, SBTC opened its doors to the banking public on the ground floor of the Consolidated Investment Building facing Plaza Goiti on June 18, 1951. It had an initial capital of P3 million and a workforce of 55. On April 26, 1994, Security Bank and Trust Company received its license to operate as a universal bank thereby changing its name to Security Bank Corporation (SBC). Today, SBC has 52 years in the banking industry with 114 branches on-line real time and 85 ATMs out of all Bancnet ATMs. It is among the top 11 private domestic commercial banks (in terms of total assets) serving large corporate and middle-market accounts. SBC remains as committed as ever in achieving long-term partnerships with its clients through highest standards of quality service, professionalism and responsiveness, character of a full service bank.

Sitel
The new Sitel is a global Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) leader. Formed by the merger of ClientLogic and SITEL in January 2007, Sitel meets clients' customer

Junior INQUIRER

E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2007 ✦ 8 PAGES ✦ VOLUME 10, NUMBER 75

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our Harry Potter Word Search!

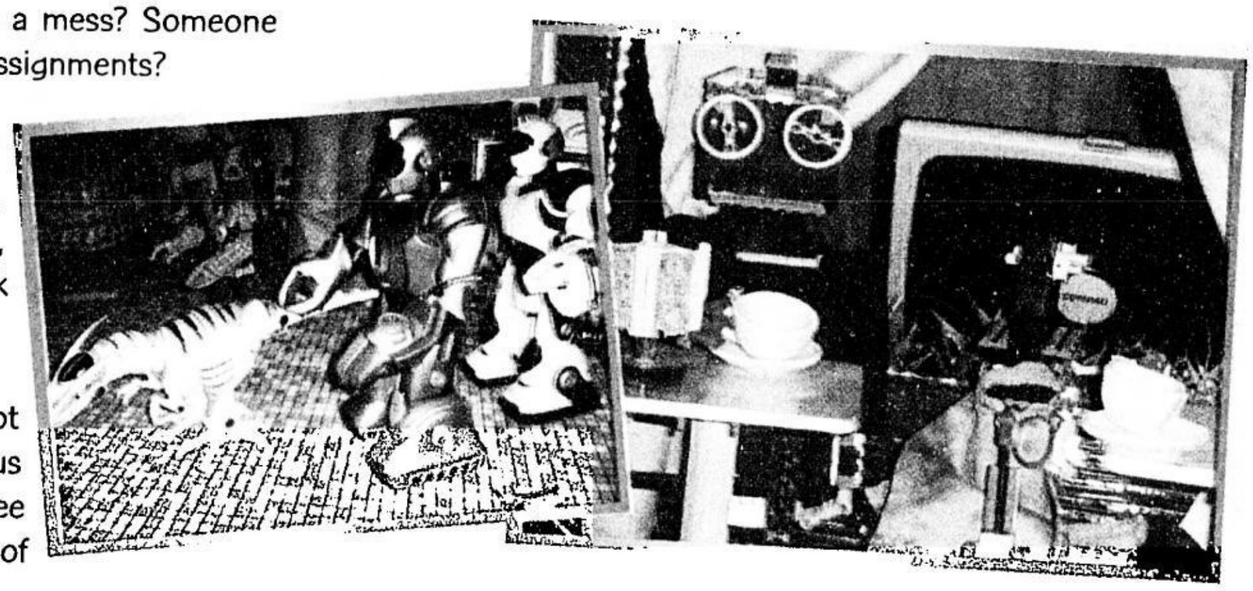
Page 2

Welcome to the world of ROBOTS

By Ruth L. Navarra

WOULDN'T IT BE COOL IF YOU HAVE someone at your beck and call? Someone who can make you butter cookies and iced chocolate on a hot afternoon? Someone who automatically cleans your room after you've made a mess? Someone who can help you with your assignments?

Someone... or something? Think Jenny " XJ-9" Wakeman, Tinman of Oz, C3PO, Bumblebee and Asimo. Think robots.



Last weekend, robot enthusiasts and the curious flocked to Shangri-La Mall to see the latest in the world of robotics.

"We want to let people know that robotics is not just for entertainment. They're not just toys. Its purpose extends to military, health and many others," says Susan Arcega, organizer of the event.

> Robotics is the study of the technology involved in designing, manufacturing, and using robots.

Our soldiers and policemen should look into the mechanics of Robo Worm, a robot made by college students from Adamson University. Robo Worm, which is operated like a remote control car, is a surveillance robot. This means it can examine or inspect a place with the use of a camera. Because of its segmented body, it can manage its way through rocky terrains. Instead of risking lives to check for survivors during rescue operations, you send these machines.

The same group also came up with a humanoid robot that is not as useful as the Worm, but still something fun to have. Its sole purpose is to entertain us by dancing!

And if you get thirsty, there's W2O at your service. He's a waiter from El Batangueño Coffeeshop. The all-robot staff at this unique shop will make sure that you have everything you need from coffee to entertainment. This concept was created by the students of the First Asia Institute of Technological Society.

"We also want to showcase Filipinos who excel in the field of robotics. They are international award-winners," says Susan.

Take the students from Novaliches High School who created the Janitor Robot, or JR.

"We wanted to make something that could be useful now and the future. We used scrap materials to create a robot that could clean its environment," says Maverick Ray Francisco, 16. "We used an old bucket for its body, coconut husk for its head and feather dusters for hands. We also painted it with a Filipino flag for the patriotic touch."

JR was so innovative that its makers won first prize in the senior division of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation International Intelligent Robot Competition in South Korea last year.

"We also want to bring (to people's) attention how local government could help students in public schools advance in the field of robotics, (like what) the Makati government did," says Susan. She further adds that most of the competitions held that weekend were won by public school students.

Robotics has indeed transformed the lives of many students at the Robofiesta. Hopefully, these robots will roll out and transform communities as well.

Guyito's Corral

WELCOME TO MY CORRAL!

This is your own special space, where you can express your thoughts and feelings about anything under the sun in the form of essays, poems, letters and even illustrations!

Send all contributions to ji@inquirer.com.ph. Don't forget to indicate your full name, age and the city where you live. We'll be waiting!

Junior INQUIRER

GRACE M LEUNG
Editorial Consultant
LYNETT A. VILLARIBA
Design Consultant
LIZ RAÑOLA
Art Director
RUTH L. NAVARRA
Staff Writer
DIANNE M. VILLAFUERTE
Editorial Assistant
STEPHANIE BRAVO
Illustrator
CHITO SAN MATEO
Marketing Officer
MYLENE DE JESUS
Sales Officer

THE JUNIOR INQUIRER is published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer on each Sunday of the month.
E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph
Office address: Philippine Daily Inquirer Building, Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, Philippines
Telephone number: 897-8808 loc. 340 (Editorial) and 534 (Sales).
Snail mail: P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines.

We got hundreds of entries, but there can only be ten!

Congratulations to the first ten JI readers who mailed us the correct answers to the Harry Potter Word Search! They each win a Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows cap courtesy of Scholastic, Inc.

Guiller C. Barrientos, 12, Aklan
Michelle Lojo, 14, Las Pinas
Pete G. Leyson, 7, Quezon City
Barbara P. David, 8, Quezon City
Lulliboy de la Vega, 10, Mandaluyong City
Joshua L. Cinco, 9, Cainta, Rizal
Ansley Yee, 12, San Andres, Manila
Jeremiah Anthony Nuqui, 8, Caloocan City
Jesse Angelo F. Rosario, 8, Tondo, Manila
Christian Immanuel Ella, 8, Imus, Cavite

Please call Ate Dianne at 897-8808 loc. 340 to find out how you can get your prize. All prizes must be claimed on or before Sept. 21, 2007.

Letters

Dear, JI

I realy like sundays because it's time for me to look for "Junior Inquirer" in the newspaper. It's not only me enjoying it but my WHOLE family too. My sister and I looks for "JI snoops" and "Wassup world".

This is much more fun than computer games and video cd!

-Beatrice Marie R. Carreon
9 yrs. old
Cainta, Rizal, Antipolo city

Thank you for writing us, Beatrice! We have a thank-you gift for you. Please call Ate Dianne Villafuerte at 897-8808 local 340 to find out how you can claim it.

—JI Staff

Want to get to know other JI readers like you? Want to write to our Snoops? Or do you simply want to be the first to know about JI promos? Join our yahoogroup! Just send a blank e-mail to jjreaders-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Guyito's Corral

This is your own special space, where you can express your thoughts and feelings about anything under the sun in the form of essays, poems, letters and even illustrations!

Send all contributions to ji@inquirer.com.ph. Don't forget to indicate your full name, age and the city where you live. We'll be waiting!

We got hundreds of entries, but there can only be ten!

ongratulation

Guiller C. Barrientos, 12, Aklan
Michelle Lojo, 14, Las Pinas
Pete G. Leyson, 7, Quezon City
Barbara P. David, 8, Quezon City
Lulliboy de la Vega, 10, Mandaluyong City
Joshua L. Cinco, 9, Cainta, Rizal
Ansley Yee, 12, San Andres, Manila
Jeremiah Anthony Nuqui, 8, Caloocan City
Jesse Angelo F. Rosario, 8, Tondo, Manila
Christian Immanuel Ella, 8, Imus, Cavite

Pleas .all Ate Dianne at 897-8808 loc. 340 to find out how you can get your prize. All prizes must be claimed on or befor Sept 21, 200

Letters

Dear, JI

use

tin Enquirer

newspaper me

enj int m, WHOLE

family too. My sister and I looks for "JI snoops" and "Wassup world."

This is much more fun than computer games and video cd.

Beatrice Marie R. Carreon
9 yrs old
Cainta Rizal, Ant:

Thank you for writing us, Beatrice! We have a thank-you gift for you. Please call Ate Dianne Villafuerte at 897-8808 local 340 to find out how you can claim it.

—JI Staff

Junior INQUIRER

GRACE M LEUNG
Editorial Consultant
LYNETT A. VILLARIBA
Design Consultant
LIZ RANOLA
Art Director
RUTH L. NAVARRA
Staff Writer
DIANNE M. VILLAFUERTE
Editorial Assistant
STEPHANIE BRAVO
Illustrator
CHITO SAN MATEO
Marketing Officer
MYLENE DE JESUS
Sales Officer

THE JUNIOR INQUIRER is published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer on each Sunday of the month.
E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph
Office address: Philippine Daily Inquirer Building, Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, Philippines
Telephone number: 897-8808 loc. 340 (Editorial) and 534 (Sales).
Snail mail: P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines.

Our Children's Newspaper
Awardee Hall of Fame

Want to get to know other JI readers like you? Want to write to our Snoops? Or do you simply want to be the first to know about JI promos? Join our yahoogroup! Just send a blank e-mail to jireaders-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Kandy, SRI LANKA

Precious tooth

AN ELEPHANT carries a golden casket of Lord Buddha's holy tooth during the annual Buddhist cultural pageant, "Esala Perahera," at the Tooth Temple. Thousands of people are attending the 10-day-long pageant in the ancient central hill capital of Kandy. **Reuters**

Wassup World?

Rescued rufuos

A BABY rufuos was turned over by members of the Philippine Army to Manuel Bravo, the assistant director of the Philippine Animal Welfare Bureau. The bird was rescued in Doña Remedios Trinidad in Bulacan. **Joan Bondoc**

Bulacan, PHILIPPINES

Minalin, PHILIPPINES

No floods, please

VILLAGERS celebrate the feast of Saint Monica aboard bancas in Minalin, north of Manila. The villagers, primarily fishermen, asked their patron saint for an abundant harvest and to protect their town from floods and typhoons. **Reuters**

Kathmandu, NEPAL

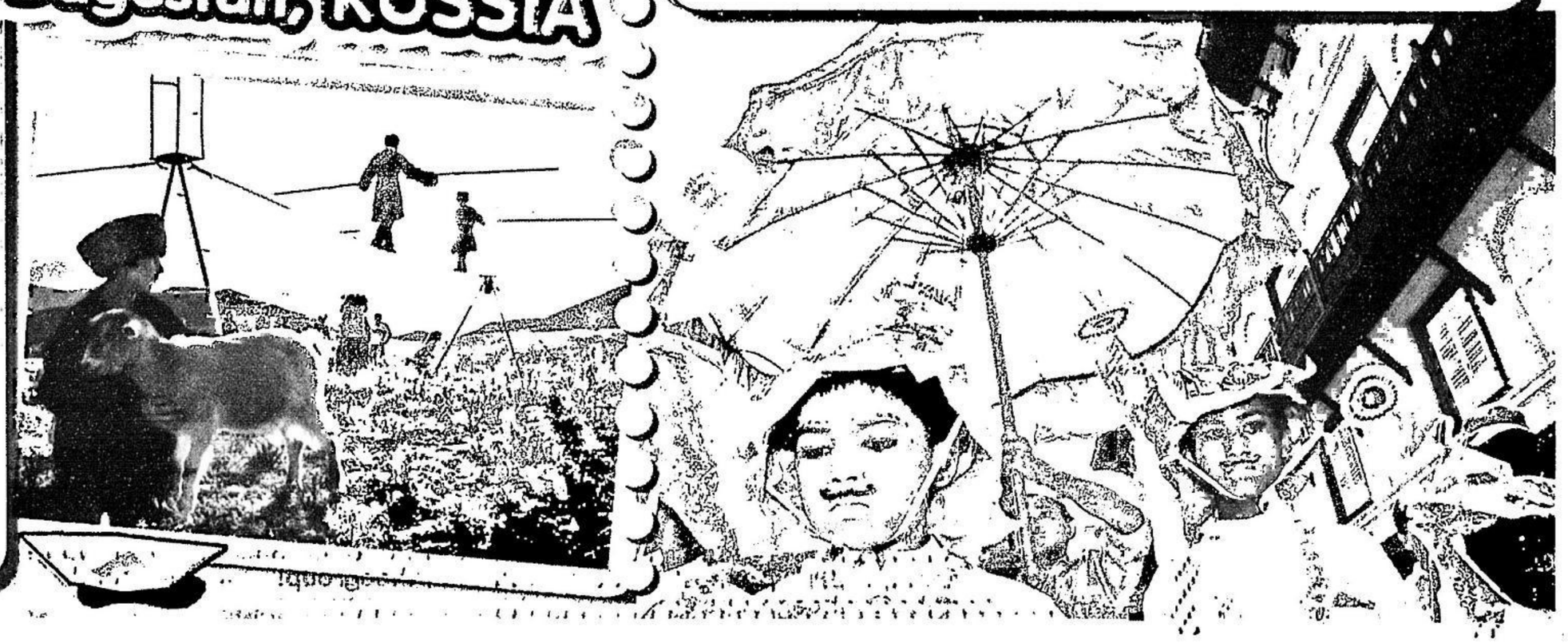
Cow parade

CHILDREN dressed as cows attend the Hindu "Gaijatra" festival (cow festival) in Kathmandu. Some devotees pose as cows, which are considered to be holy in the Hindu religion, and parade around town in memory of the departed souls of their relatives. **Reuters**

Dagestan, RUSSIA

A balanced life

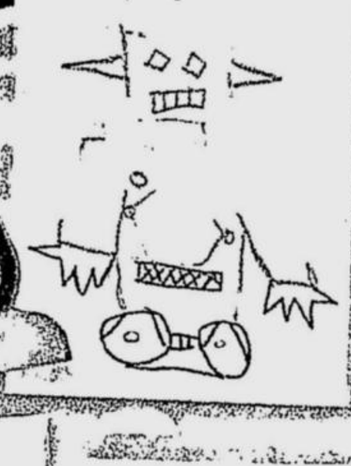
FOR children in this remote mountain village on Russia's southern fringe, after-school games means balancing on a wire suspended one story above ground. No one really remembers when it started, but nearly every man, woman and child in Tsovkra-1 can walk the tightrope. **Reuters**



Think Out Loud!

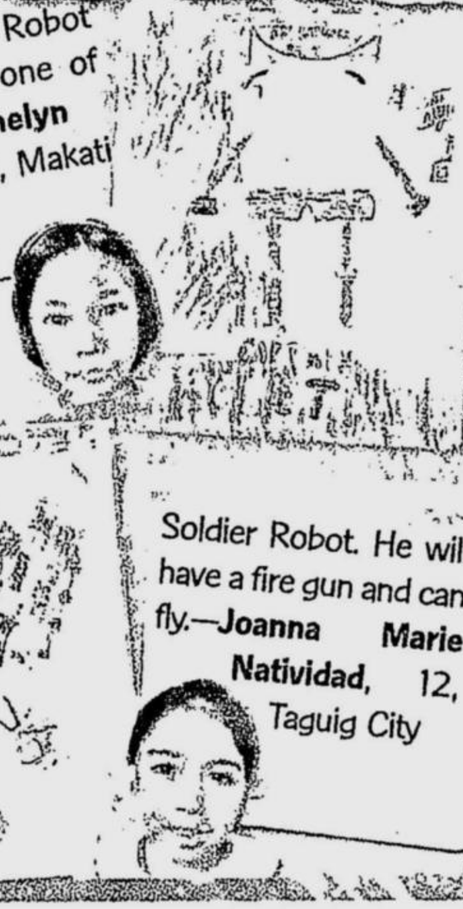
What robot do you want to create?

My robot will be the Pollution Buster. He can solve our problems in waste management.—**Joleena Santiago**, 8, Quezon City

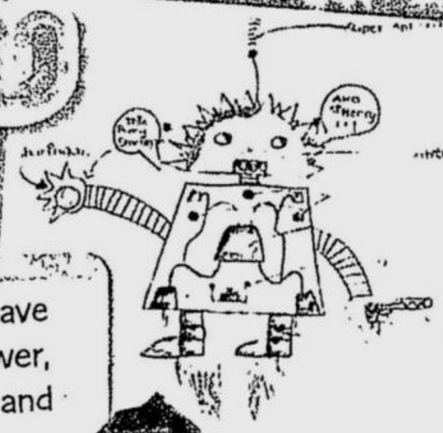


I will create "Raptor," he will have a laser gun.—**Geffer Jhun Dumile**, 11, Makati City

My Captain Robot can alert anyone of danger.—**Genelyn Langote**, 10, Makati City



Soldier Robot. He will have a fire gun and can fly.—**Joanna Marie Natividad**, 12, Taguig City



My robot will have ultra higop power, a rocket ship and super antenna.—**Carl Angelo Arnaiz**, 9, Pasig City

Cyber Surfer can transform his hands into a heat gun. His board can fly to outerspace, and he has laser eyes.—**Janna Sammer Lejano**, 10, Rizal

subscribe to Spark MAGAZINE
and watch your world expand!

Bringing Out the Fun in Science

AND I, CAPTAIN CRANIUM, WILL ANSWER YOUR BAFFLING QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR WORLD, AND BEYOND!

crazy experiments

fascinating facts

amazing animals

nature secrets

mind-boggling games & puzzles

high-tech wonders

subscribe now!

Be part of a whole world of wonders and discoveries!

PHP 180 2 ISSUES

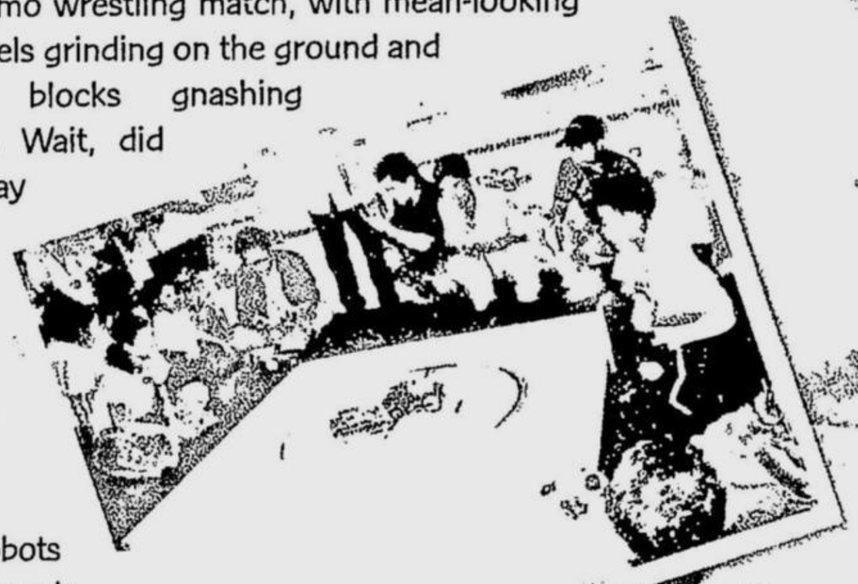
PHP 360 4 ISSUES

Call 759-2286
new or email
hipcards@hip.ph
for details

Kids 'r'rrific

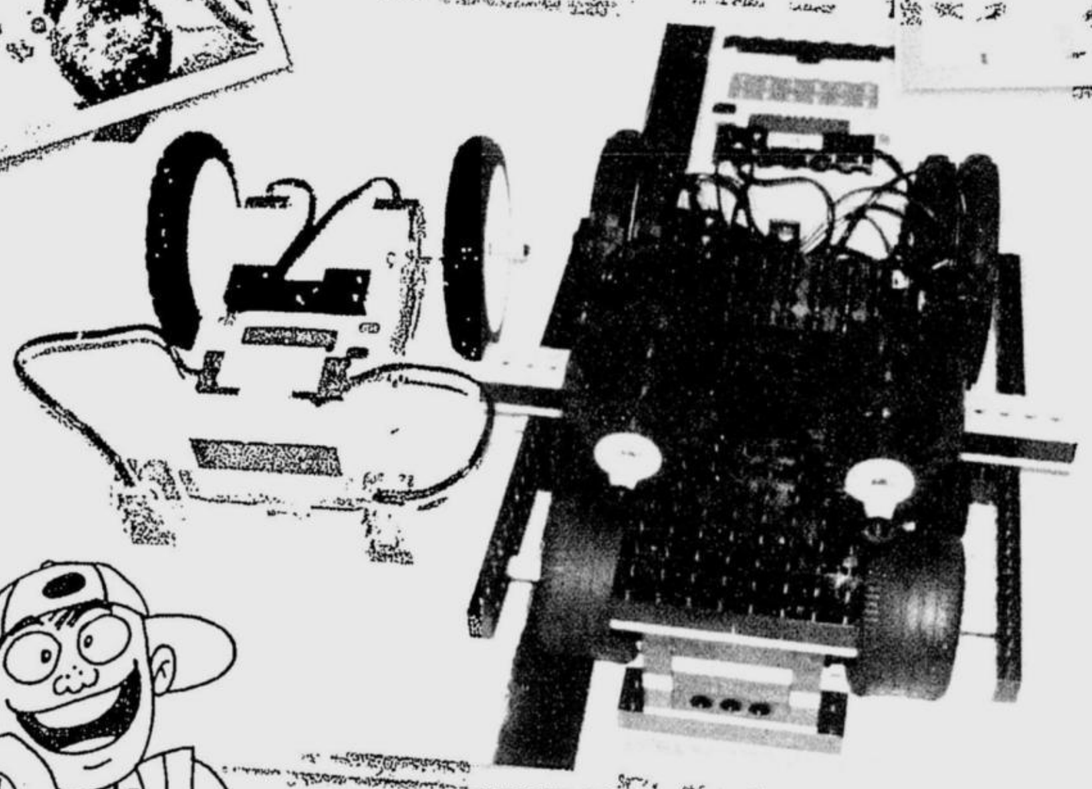
Robo Masters

By Ruth L. Navarra

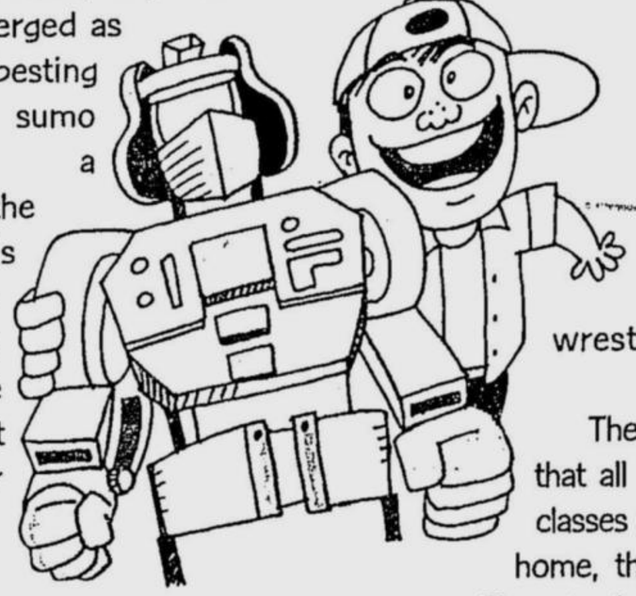


IMAGINE ROBOTS CLASHING TOGETHER IN a sumo wrestling match, with mean-looking wheels grinding on the ground and colorful blocks gnashing together. Wait, did we say color-ful blocks?

These brightly-colored sumo robots were made from Lego, and they were crafted by the dynamic duo of Rogen P. Amen, 11, and Joshua R. Cortel, 10, both from Tibagan Elementary School.



"We use a kit in our school called Lego Mindstorms to make them," says Rogen. Their robot emerged as the champion sumo, besting 13 others in the sumo category of a competition at the Robofiesta held this month in Shangri-la Plaza. The competitors came from different schools all over Metro Manila.



In the sumo event, two competing cars move towards the middle of a circular arena. Once there, they try to push one another outside certain lines—just like wrestlers in a real sumo match.

The boys' victory comes with pride in knowing that all their hard work has finally paid off. Their classes usually end at noon, but instead of heading home, they stay behind to work on their robots. They stay in corridors outside the class of their Science teacher, Romel Tallud, because they need his help once in a while. They spend entire afternoons crouched on the floor, tinkering with blocks, creating designs and mastering the concepts of gears and torques.

But they never complained.

"I like what I'm doing because I like discovering new things. We have to improve our designs always, so it's almost like we're making a new robot every day," says Joshua.

But the real challenge was to keep their school's interest in robotics alive. Their team originally started out with six members. All members of the team were chosen because they showed promise in the field of science. But eventually, only Joshua and Rogen were left.

"Some of them didn't have the patience and dedication, so they didn't last," says Joshua.

"We go to different workshops and dry runs even on weekends. When you're in a workshop, you must remember that you're there to learn and not to leave the team and go around," adds Rogen.

Joshua and Rogen realize that they are lucky to have access to the robot kits, and that they are given the opportunity to learn how to use computers for programming. But most of all, they know they are lucky because they get to learn while having fun!

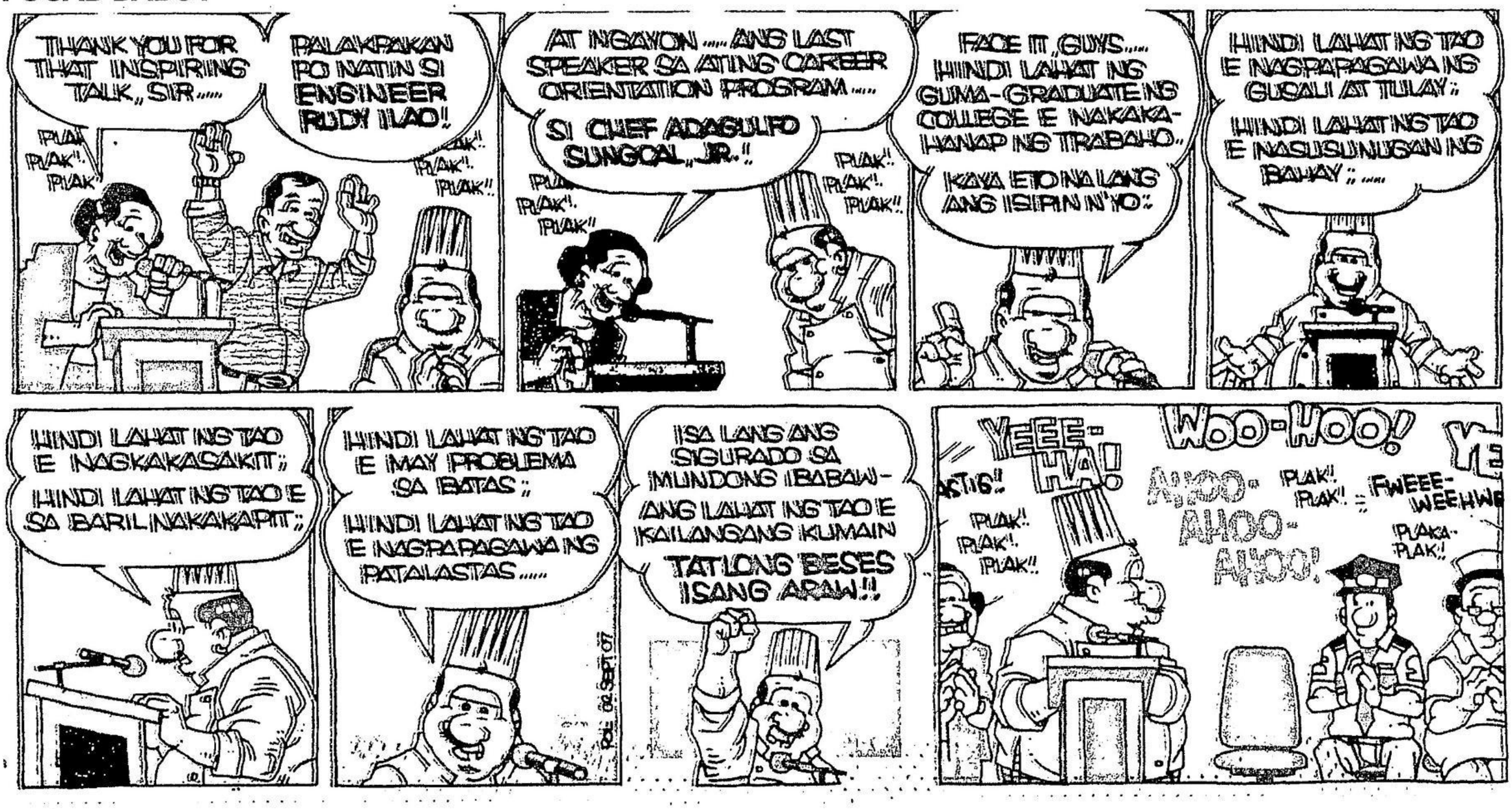
RAGNAROK

BY LEVEL-UP GAMES

3X EXP SEPTEMBER 5-12, 2007 TO CELEBRATE EPISODE XV: RACHEL!! FOR DETAILS, PLEASE VISIT HTTP://WWW.RAGNAROK.PH

PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.



BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT

ZITS

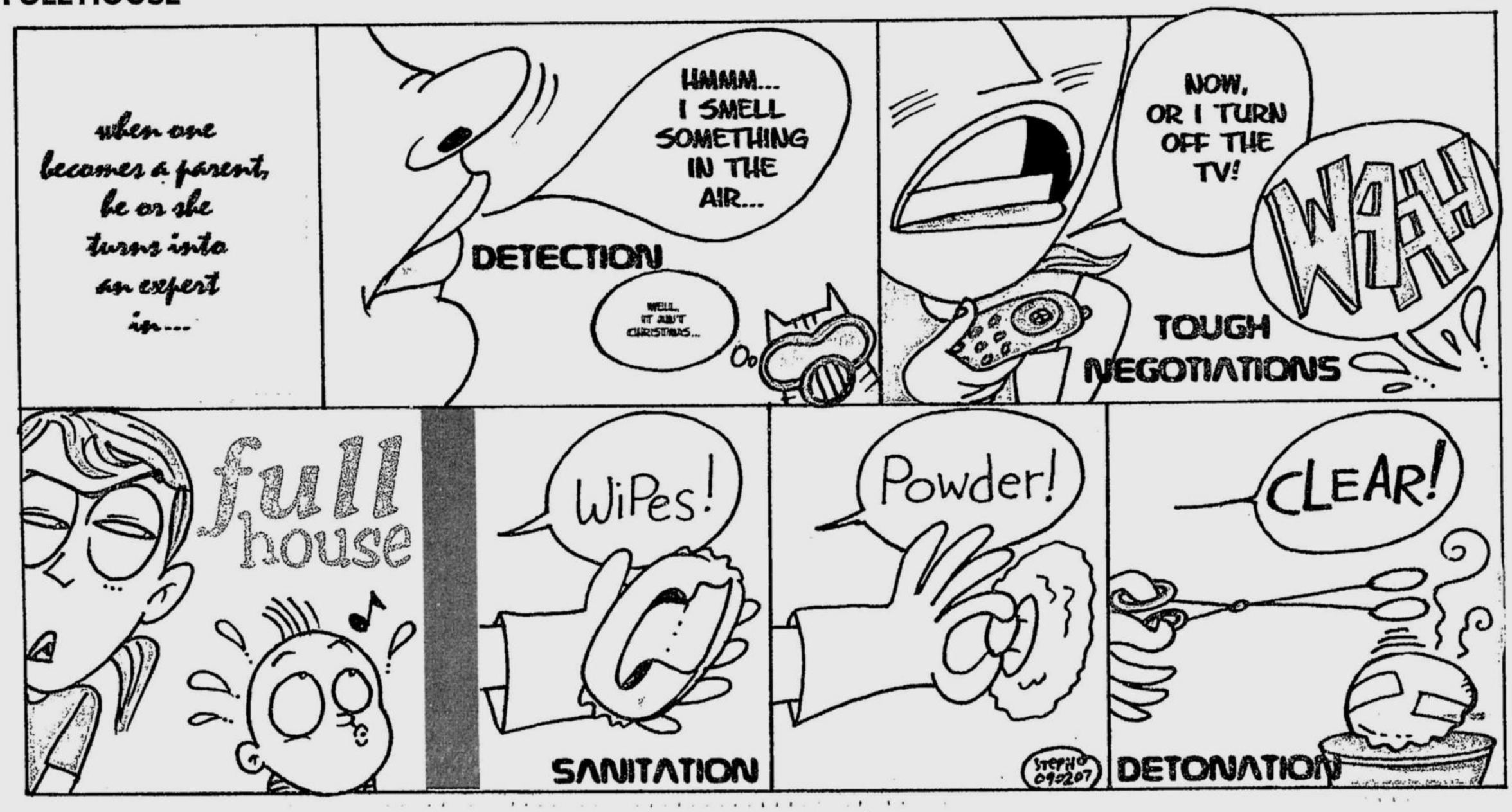
BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO



*sunday*INQUIRER*magazine*

September 2, 2007

FREE

Sarah Geronimo

discovers her own home entertainment system

choosing homes
kitsch alert
pest patrol
more!

House Calls

Much ado about moving in

THE last shingle's in place, the dotted line has been signed and the lights are working. Time to move in! But before you do, here a few reminders from the old folks on how to bring in good vibes into your threshold. Some might sound outright silly or absurd, but as the pragmatic might shrug, better safe...

1. Time your moving-in day on a new moon when it is waxing towards fullness. That's supposed to bring in burgeoning luck and wealth.

2. Be sure to be in your new home before the sun rises as this signifies a bright new beginning.

3. Before bringing in your furniture and other stuff, march into your new household with the requisite symbols of plenty: rice, sugar, salt, water, oil and the Holy Family. Others say that any religious image would do as well. Some also suggest taping red envelopes with cash on the rice containers to further attract good fortune.

4. To establish ownership of the place, some feng shui experts suggest placing nine orange, lemon or lime skins in a bowl or pail. Fill the container with water and splash the citrus water on all floors, cleansing the place of bad chi and evil spirts.

5. For the same reason, some folk suggest turning up the radio full blast on the first day to let the spirits know that you are now the owner of the place. Walk through each room to establish your presence.

6. Another way to claim ownership is to shine a flashlight on all corners of your closets. This, according to some people, should guide the good spirits from your old place into your new abode.

7. After moving into a new house, avoid sleeping on an old bed, goes another belief. If a new bed sounds like an unnecessary expense, you can just buy new sheets and a bedspread to simulate the feeling of freshness. Anxious homeowners sometimes brush each bed with a new broom just to make sure that bad spirits are driven off.

8. A similar ritual of cleansing the house of bad spirits involves a Japanese ritual of burning incense and going around the house while waving the now smoke-filled incense burner.

9. To bring continued prosperity to homeowners, coins are usually placed on top of house posts and cabinets.

10. Feasting on a whole chicken as a first meal in the new home is supposed to bring luck, prosperity and family togetherness.

Chuchie Quevedo-See

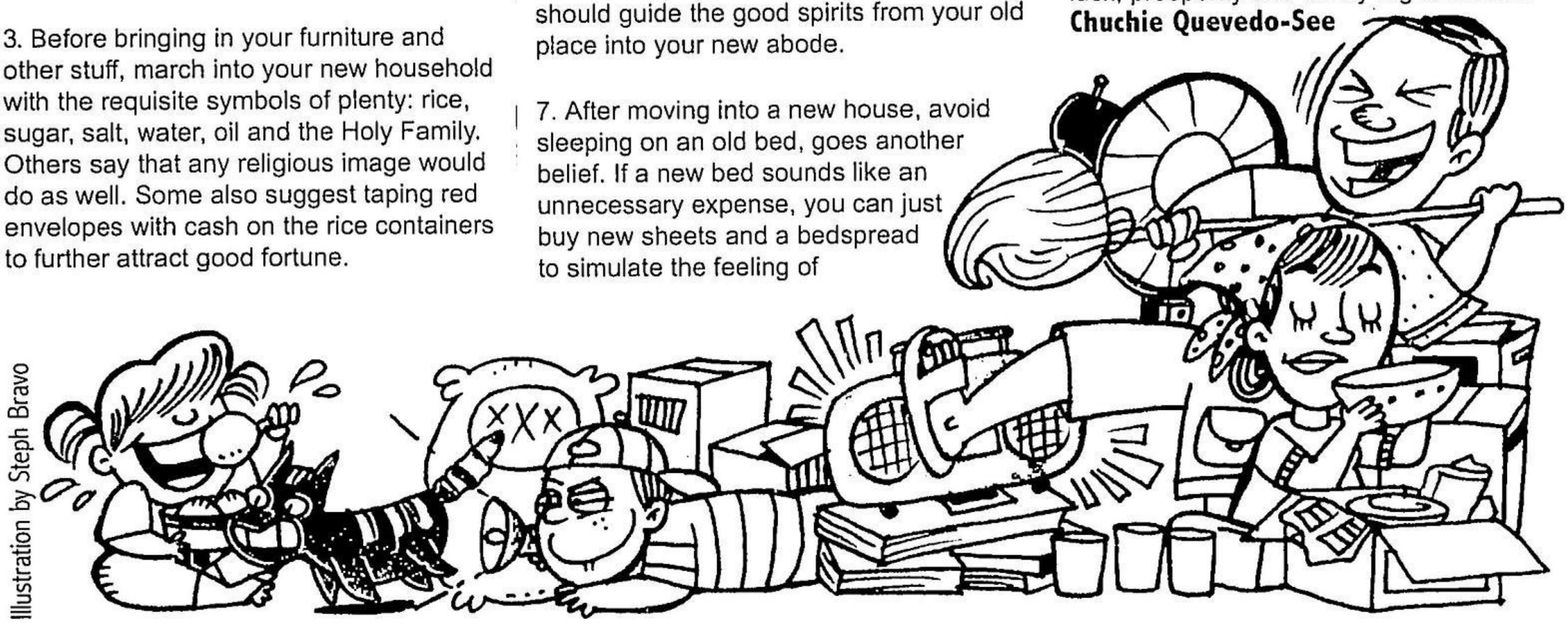


Illustration by Steph Bravo

Figure It Out

16,091 persons/sq km: Population density of the National Capital Region as of 2000

2.17 million: Population of Quezon City, the most heavily-populated city in the NCR

57,407: Population of Pateros, the city with the smallest population in the NCR

446 persons/sq km: Population density of Cebu

1,364 persons/sq km: Population density of Cavite

2.43 million: Population of Pangasinan, most heavily-populated province aside from the NCR

16,467: Population of Batanes, the province with the smallest population

15.28 million: Total number of households in the Philippines in 2000

10.87 million: Total number of owned or amortizied Filipino homes

1.54 million: Total number of rented homes

P14.79 billion: Total amount of government housing loans granted by the Pag-IBIG expanded loan program in 2004

3.76 million units: Projected total housing need in the Philippines from 2005-2010

984,466 units: Projected housing backlog for the same period

Compiled by Kate Pedroso, Inquirer Research

Source: National Statistical Coordination Board, Senate Economic Planning Office

Because
I Deserve
Better

892-SKIN

facial care
CENTRE

www.facialcarecentre.com.ph

MAKATI • ORTIGAS • TOMAS MORATO • SHAW • ALABANG • BINONDO • CONGRESSIONAL • PAMPANGA (961-3404) • CEBU (233-7631)

Text and photos by Margaux Salcedo

Comfort Food for Rainy-day Blues

Reliable and just around the corner, Su Zhou makes me dial for dumplings to keep the storm at bay

It rained, it rained
It poured, it stormed
It shuddered, it thundered
It whistled, it blew

Imprisoned at home
I ran to the phone
And found comfort
In dialing Su Zhou :-)

LIKE most Filipino city rats, my comfort foods of choice rotate among Pinoy home cooking, pizza and Chinese food. So when stormy weather forces us to stay home and watch bad TV and inebriated by the music of the rain, by force of habit I find myself dialling 73737 (that's North Park, by the way, not Su Zhou).

Residents of the Greenhills and Wilson areas are much luckier because their choices for Chinese take-out far outnumber those for residents of other locations, save for Ongpin. It was in the Greenhills-Wilson area that I found a great neighborhood restaurant called Su Zhou.

Like a real Chinese resto, Su Zhou is a no-frills, no-nonsense joint. So for those who are after frills—ambience, coziness, dim lights—it would be wise to skip over to Fu instead at Serendra, The Fort; Su Zhou would not be the restaurant for you. The walls here are painted a simple flat white and green, they don't even have the same chairs and the lights are simple Chinese-themed lanterns.

But if you are a real foodie and can delight in a meal amid an austere setting, by all means visit this restaurant. Like the residents of San Juan and contiguous neighborhoods who fill the restaurant at different hours of the day, you'll grow accustomed to the place.

At the top of the To Order list are the dumplings. In fact, in my humble opinion, it's the dumplings that make this Chinese diner. A must try is the Special Xiao Long Pao. Not to be confused with their *siopao*, which they instead call Ah Pao, this meat dumpling is the size of a mini pao and shaped just like so, which is probably why it has the word "pao" in its name. And it is special because it has a pleasant surprise inside: unlike the dry siopao, this dumpling contains broth! So when you bite into it, you feel a burst of warm liquid against the soft dumpling shell and the rugged ground meat. As if that wasn't enough, to add to the texture action going on, Su Zhou also saucers the dumplings with a thin slice of carrot. This adds a bit of crunch as you bite into the Xiao Long, making each bite an extraordinary experience.

Not too far behind is the Pan Fried Kuchay and Pork Dumpling. The ground pork inside is mashed with what tastes like a generous amount of chives and other greens. And contrary to what I expected, only the bottom is pan fried, adding a bit of crunch to the otherwise soft, steamed dough. The pan frying here seems to take the place of the crunchy carrot, which is absent for the Kuchay Dumpling but again makes an appearance with their Shrimp and Pork Dumpling, my dumpling of choice on another occasion. But I liked both because they were tasty, filling and fresh and because they really reminded me of the fresh dumplings I had in Guilin, China earlier this year. The only other restaurant

(continued on page 12)

Zhou good: Fish in Tausi (above), Special Xiao Long Pao (right)

FEATURE

By Charles E. Buban

Homing in on a good buy

A few more things to remember when buying a house

www.mycenturyhome.com

Comfort and budget are key whether shopping for a condo (above) or a detached unit (left).

BUYING a house is one of life's most exciting decisions. And though it may seem complicated—or even scary—it is quite a simple and easy process as long as you take it one step at a time.

The first thing a homebuyer should ask: What type of housing unit should I buy?

Phinma president and CEO Willie Uy suggests that homebuyers first determine if they prefer a single family home, which means the ownership includes the house and extends to the limits of the property lines; a townhouse wherein the ownership includes the lot on which the house sits as well as the entire structure, or a condominium, where ownership is limited to a single unit and a shared interest in all of the common areas, like the swimming pool or the gym, for example.

Uy says that while a house with a lot would give homebuyers ample privacy and room for extension, a condo or townhouse would relieve them of yard work and exterior maintenance.

He adds: "Remember, you are making a long-term commitment so don't hesitate to ask questions. The type of house you choose depends on your life situation, lifestyle and budget. A house-and-lot package is generally more expensive than owning a condo unit. Most condo units meanwhile are near city centers so they would appeal more to young professionals or those who pursue a busy life."

In addition to the type of housing, consider as well the financing method you'd avail yourself of, as it also has an impact on the overall cost of the property you're buying. Uy suggests going around and comparing prices since one should also consider the down payment needed to secure the

property.

"Know how much you can afford prior to looking, or you may be looking at properties that are way over your budget. Since you will most likely need to get a mortgage to buy a house, you must make sure your credit history is as clean as possible," reminds Uy.

Another thing to remember is selecting the community that will allow you to live your daily life comfortably and in peace.

Uy notes that most homebuyers' choices are influenced by the property's proximity to good schools and access to public transportation.

Yet other house buyers prefer the peace and quiet of a rural community, according to Sonny Ducay of Firm Builders Realty whose projects are mostly outside the city.

Says Ducay: "When you find places that you like, talk to people who live there. They know the most about the area and will be your future neighbors. More than anything, you want a neighborhood where you feel comfortable in," he adds.

Once you have chosen the type of house and the community you like, the next step is to check the house itself.

(continued on page 12)

By Michael L. Tan

Bringing the Pinoy closer to home

Be it ever so humble, Filipinos always find ways to make a home. Think of the possibilities if living space translates to home ownership. "Going home" then takes on a new meaning

PDI Photo/Erik Arazas

The home is Philippine society in miniature.

"*NAMAMAHAY*" is the term we use when, while on travel—it can be Baguio or Bahrain—we are unable to sleep at night, or are dogged by a feeling of malaise and dis-ease, including unproductive sitting in the morning. "*Namamahay*" is a graphic description of how the psyche, the spirit craves for home so that the Filipino, even as he boards the plane to leave the country, already wants to go back home.

Home is where the heart is, the cliché goes, and it doesn't matter how humble the house might be. The last national census had a startling finding: the median floor area for Filipino households was 29.6 square meters. We're not just talking about several informal settler families (read: squatters) cramped into a tiny shack; look through the classified ads and you'll find condos with 16 square meters of space.

The Filipino adjusts to whatever's available. I've seen air conditioners even in squatter areas, part of a massive recycling economy which allows Filipino households to constantly upgrade their homes. The poor have been particularly resourceful at tapping into the many junk shops for materials they can reuse, from plywood to discarded advertising tarpaulins, from sinks to commodes (*kubeta*).

The remittances from 8 million Filipinos working overseas have created a boom for housing construction and interior furnishings. It's helped, too, that in recent years, low-cost housing fixtures have been made available from China, Thailand and Indonesia.

The Filipino home is like our *telenovelas*, with numerous installments, complete with stories of triumphs and victories, of blood, sweat and tears. I've found homes with half a wall, or holes in the walls meant to be windows, owners apologizing about a delay in money from Saudi (or, if I'm in some remote province, from Manila).

The Filipino home is Philippine society in miniature. No matter how tiny, the house has socially demarcated spaces and corresponding furnishings. Visitors from a lower class usually make it only to the gate or the garage. Honored guests are ushered into the living room (or for richer households, the den), which is kept neat and clean, the sofa and the TV still wrapped in plastic, sometimes with their price tags still attached. Our fear of empty space, and love of the *borloloy* (frills), is reflected in the living room, often a museum for all the photographs, *abubut* (knick-knacks) and souvenirs from weddings, baptisms and overseas trips.

Intimate friends make it all the way to the bedrooms, where we dump all our junk when unexpected visitors arrive. But amid the junk are the treasures as well, saved for the eyes of closest friends, like that 36-inch television set, and the Magic Mike karaoke set for friends to sing along.

There is one place in Filipino homes that is often neglected: the "comfort room." Despite that unique Filipino-English word, we seem to associate the toilet with "profane" activities like bathing and evacuating (the Taglish slang) and therefore allow toilets to fall apart: cracked or missing tiles, leaky faucets, commodes that no longer flush, even heaters that have long burnt out.

Gardens are better cared for than the comfort room. Even urban poor shanties will have a few plants growing out of recycled infant formula cans, precariously hanging from window sills that threaten to come crashing down on hapless Bantay, the family dog, miserably tied on a short leash.

A paradox in the Philippines is that while we treasure our homes, our surroundings are often filthy. To some extent, it's because of the way we define spaces: The home is private space, for which we take responsibility while everything else, even the street in front of the house, is public, which we perceive to be the government's responsibility.

I do think it is possible to combine both individualism with a sense of community. Look at how the upper classes have built their own little worlds within their subdivisions or even condominium buildings, with their own shared spaces

(continued on page 14)

Home is where the art is—or what passes for it

By Eric S. Caruncho
Photos by Rudy Esperas

For the typical Pinoy, a house is not a home without the "Weapons of Moroland" on the wall, the dressed-up Sto. Niño in a corner and those giant spoon and fork flanking the Last Supper in the dining room

Classic craft: The Weapons of Moroland

LET'S face it, kitsch 'R' us.

We might pay lip service to Bauhaus style, or minimalism, or the Miami style, or whatever new wrinkle in interior design happens to be trendy at the moment, but deep down, we're all the same.

Face a Pinoy with a bare wall or an empty shelf and that old horror vacui just wells up inside him. And chances are, he'll pick the cheesiest possible piece to put there.

For instance:

• The Sto. Niño theme. Much has been made of the Filipino devotion to the Christ Child. What most commentators fail to mention is the fact that for many of us, the Sto. Niño also fills the role played by Ken and Barbie for young girls, an opportunity to play "dress up." And age—or gender, for that matter—is no barrier. I once interviewed a high-ranking police official on some long-forgotten story, but I'll never forget the foot-tall Sto. Niño on his desk, dressed from head to toe in full khaki uniform, complete with insignia matching the rank of the owner (this was before the PNP switched to dress blues). I've also been to some local government offices where the Sto. Niño is dressed up like some minor government functionary, in polyester barong and double-knit pants, and some clinics where he's dressed in scrubs and is carrying a toy stethoscope. And of course, there's the "farmer" Sto. Niño, with his little *salakot*, red pajamas and neckerchief.

• Religious décor: While we're on the subject of Jesus, whatever happened to those 3-D pictures of Christ—you know, the one where his eyes seemed to be looking at you no matter where you were? Holy paranoia, Batman! There used to be one in every home, laminated on a wood plaque, very likely hung next to a similar plaque containing the story of "Footprints in the Sand" or some such "uplifting" sentiment. They seem to have been replaced by "disco Jesus," where in lieu of a halo, Jesus' head is surrounded by flashing colored lights. This is a Vietnamese import, but it could just as well have been Pinoy.

• Baguio : Apart from being the country's produce market, the City of Pines is also the source for much *kitschiniana*, and just about every lowlander who pays it a visit goes home with a bottle of strawberry jam, a month's worth of veggies and a "barrel man." There seems to be a city ordinance that says you can't visit Baguio and not buy one of these "conversation pieces." Me, I prefer the giant Igorot warriors brandishing the freshly-severed heads of their enemies, or carrying a deer or wild boar across their shoulders. If only I had the space!

• Dining room décor: Baguio is also where you get those giant wooden spoons and forks that Pinoys like to hang on their dining room wall, together with the de rigueur Last Supper. Our family was considered avant garde in our neighborhood because we had Dali's "Last Supper" in our dining room, instead of Da Vinci's.

• Weapons of Moroland: The origins of this artifact are lost in the mists of time. Probably some enterprising craftsman thought it might make a good souvenir for Yanks coming home from the Jolo campaign of 1915. In any case, this wooden plaque with miniature replicas of the kris, the *barong*, the *kampilan* and other blades from the far South used to hang in every Filipino home to remind the inhabitants of their proud warrior heritage. Now, of course, they're hot sellers on eBay, billed as a genuine "cultural, ethnological artifact," which is probably why you don't see them as often. Among other things, Weapons of Moroland would be a cool name for a hardcore band—somebody start one!

Dining duet: Giant utensils

• Art: This is where good taste and good

(continued on page 8)

FEATURE

By Eric S. Caruncho

Home Entertainment Made Easy

Life's a party, and your home is where it's happening. Here's how:

Size matters: A compact home entertainment system

HOME entertainment used to be easy. You bought a radio, a television set, maybe a record player, and that was it

Things got slightly more complex when home video came along. Betamax or VHS? Laser disc or VCD? Make the wrong decision and you might end up with a system geared to play an obsolete format, like the short-lived CD-Video.

This is nothing compared with the baffling array of choices facing the home entertainment buff today, with the arrival of true home theater. For instance:

Will you be happy just plugging your DVD player into your TV, or should you spring for a surround system? If so, you'll need an AV receiver and a corresponding set of speakers: two front, two rear, a center and probably a subwoofer for those low-bass thrills. Make sure you get the right cables, so your receiver can decode the digital surround information from the DVD player properly. There are two kinds: coaxial and optical.

The advent of high-definition TV has made things even more confusing. Should you get an LCD or plasma screen, or stick with a regular CRT monitor? Settle for DVD or get one of the newfangled competing high-definition formats like HD-DVD or Blu-Ray? Stay with cable or spring for a satellite dish and a decoder?

It all depends on how much disposable income you have: Some people even build mini-cinemas in their homes, complete with box office and popcorn machine.

But if you want to go back to the good old days when home entertainment was simple, just get a Magic Sing. Total performer Sarah Geronimo swears by Xtreme Magic Sing's latest mic, the X11000. And you could do worse than listen to a pro. After all, a videoke system guarantees total audience participation. And isn't that what entertainment is all about—listening and being part of the whole package? •

Home is where the art is... (from page 7)

Wall great: *Tinikling* dancers

sense fail the Pinoy utterly, because as long as he gets a kick out of a picture, he'll put it up a wall, whether it's an Amorsolo, a black velvet painting of a bare-breasted Igorot maiden, an on-the-spot charcoal portrait of the owner, or a tapestry of dogs playing poker or shooting pool. More than likely, he'll have *all of them* on a wall somewhere in his house, maybe even in the same room.

• Plastic: Pinoys like to keep their furniture in mint condition, the same way that comic book collectors do, by wrapping them in plastic. Many's the home in which my ass has sweated on a plastic-covered sofa or armchair. And since for many Pinoys the car is simply an extension of their home, they also like to preserve that new car smell by not removing the factory plastic wrap on the upholstery. While we're on the subject of coverings, Pinoys abhor a bare surface just as much as they do a bare wall, and in almost every Pinoy home you'll find carpets, mantelpieces, table runners, doilies, antimacassars, coasters, placemats—sometimes several layers of covering between you and bare wood.

On the bright side, bad taste is the great equalizer. You might think that Pinoys have all this horrible shit in their homes because they can't afford better, but you'd only be half right. When Pinoys start making money, they just buy more expensive kitsch. They might make a show of sophistication and purchase a Bencab, but they won't take down the Ermita paintings they already have hanging. They might trade up from a Tamaraw to a Toyota Corolla but they'll keep the nodding dog and the stuffed Garfield and the seven dwarfs and their other dashboard ornaments. They might start serving pasta al dente and leave the sugar out of the sauce, but that wooden couple will still be dancing the *tinikling* on their wall. •

Sarah Sings Along

Even when relaxing at home, Sarah Geronimo never lets go of the mic. Practice makes perfect, she says, as she hones her singing skills using Xtreme Magic Sing's latest model, the X11000

YOU see her every Sunday at "ASAP," ABS-CBN's noontime show. You see her doing the concert circuit here and abroad. Aside from movies, she also acts on television and will do another nightly soap soon. At 19, Sarah Geronimo is one accomplished performer.

But what's Sarah like when she's not doing shows? How does this complete entertainer entertain herself?

Well, she confides, off-work, she stays home and hones her singing skills. Right, like she needs to.

"But I do!," insists Sarah. "After all, I am a singer first and foremost. I cannot be lazy and hope that my singing voice will always be in tiptop shape. I believe that practice still makes perfect. Without practice, I won't be able to hit the high notes consistently!"

She adds: "I also listen to the recordings of great singers here and abroad. I appreciate the way they put life in their recordings. They serve as my inspiration, my mentors even!"

Sarah used to take voice lessons from a popular music school. She believes that has helped a lot to build her confidence.

These days, she's singing a different tune. She now uses a videoke microphone to hone her voice. "At first, I thought my Xtreme Magic Sing was just a gadget that I can share with family and friends whenever they come over for a visit," says Sarah. She and her friends would often spend hours singing along to the more than 2000 built-in songs, until the singer discovered that she could actually use her Xtreme Magic Sing to fine tune her singing voice. "Imagine, I can actually come prepared with my song even before rehearsals just because I have an Xtreme Magic Sing videoke mic at home!" she reveals.

The singer has recently been signed up as the official endorser of the latest Xtreme Magic Sing product. "This (product) is really meant for me. I've been using Xtreme Magic Sing even before they got me to endorse it."

As product endorser, Sarah is among the first to get the latest Xtreme Magic Sing videoke mic, the X 11000. This new mic is a wireless model that gives its user the freedom to do some fancy dance steps while singing.

"I'm not really a dancer but I love the freedom that the X11000 gives me as I practice at home," exclaims Sarah. "And I can use it as far as seven meters away from the rechargeable doc. It also has a provision for a duet mic so a friend can sing along with me. All we have to do is to pull out another X11000 and we can proceed to do a duet!" The best part, she adds, is that the product can accommodate a third microphone with cable since the rechargeable doc also has a slot for it. "So now my friends and I do a trio!" enthuses Sarah.

The X11000 also has a ten song-chip slots so it is easy to upgrade its song library, adds the singer. One can put in Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Korean and other foreign language songs. Sarah however opted to update her repertoire of Tagalog songs. "I put in all the Tagalog song chips available and found that some of my signature songs are in there too. What's funny is that some of my friends sing my songs better than I can. Why, they even get higher scores than me. Now I tell them to try singing professionally; that way, they can give me some competition," says Sarah, laughing.

Indeed, says Sarah Geronimo, home entertainment has just become easier with the Xtreme Magic Sing videoke microphone. •

By Claire Agbayani

www.colarnavigator.net

Ortigas cityscape

City or suburbs?

Access to basic services, or clean air and more space? Where should one set up a homestead? The choice really depends on your priorities, say housing experts

THE city's shrinking—at least, that's the message one gleans from the countless ads for resort living and leisure farms that entice readers to settle in the suburbs. Why put up with the congestion, pollution, traffic, and cramped space that the city offers, when countryside living can mean open spaces, fresh air, and bigger lots for grander homes?

For young couples, the questions often translate to where it's best to raise the kids. Open spaces, sure, but the best schools and the malls where everything's within reach are often in the city.

Just how do you choose where to settle?

It's still a matter of personal choice, says Redentor Valencia, a consultant of the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), who has a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.

Valencia has experienced both city life and suburban living. Although he grew up in Mindanao, he came to Manila in the 1970s and, except for a brief stint as an urban planner in Cebu, has worked in Metro Manila for most of his life.

"Cities and suburbs are what their residents make them to be," says Valencia. "These are their homes, workplaces, where they go to school and spend their leisure hours. Real estate planners and property developers can put up the infrastructures, but it is the people who choose whether to buy into it or not."

Just like an organism, town centers and suburbs grow, evolve, age, die and regenerate, Valencia notes. "I saw how Metro Manila grew into new commercial centers like Ayala, Ortigas and Araneta," he adds. "I saw the rise of new urban centers like The Fort, Eastwood City, Rockwell, Ayala Alabang and Boulevard 2000 (Mall of Asia). I also saw urban renewal in the facelift of the Ayala Center and the Araneta Center. In Cebu, I saw how the circa 1982 Metro Cebu of the Gaisanos evolved into a Singapore-like metropolis with the help of the Ayalas."

www.sulit.com.ph

Mercado: "No such thing as a suburb." Punta Fuego (left): Suburban enclave in Batangas

While the old residential suburbs eventually decayed into slums, new suburban enclaves rose out of sleepy provincial areas. "You should see Punta Fuego in Batangas, with its beautiful seaviews and huge houses that cost at least P15M each."

Most cities like Manila, Valencia avers, "attracted rich merchants, traders and settlers because they were near the seat of government and ports servicing world trade. Up to the Second World War, people from all over the country sought to live in Manila."

Although Manila is still largely seen as the Promised Land by impressionable *provincianos* who seek out their luck in the city, the trend has been reversed drastically by a host of problems, foremost of them the perennial floods owing to the city's below sea-level elevation.

The influx of migrants has also brought on a housing crisis and a host of related problems, say Eden Garde, program manager of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and co-worker Jaime Antonio Jr., program coordinator.

The problems include "housing, secure tenure, safe water, waste disposal, drainage, access roads..." which, says Valencia, prompted rich folk to move to new residential suburbs developed by the Ayalas in Makati, the Aranetas in Quezon City and the Ortigases in Greenhills, San Juan. Quezon City has its housing projects for government workers through GSIS and SSS loans, while middle-income groups look to mall-makers Shoemart, Robinsons and Ever-Gotesco for affordable housing.

Elmer Mercado, policy advisor for the AusAID-funded Land Administration and Management Programme of the Environment department, redefines suburbs.

"There is no such thing as suburb in our situation," he contends. "(Suburb) is an American invention and import in the Philippines specially during the early 1960s-1970s... This development was 'copied' for goverment and middle class employees. That's why you have Teachers/UP Village and Projects 4 to 8 in Quezon City. The development later moved southwards to Parañaque, Las Piñas and Pasig. So the suburbs is really a movement of the rich outside Manila, which was later followed by the middle class."

Notes Valencia: "Wide spacious residential enclaves moved outwards primate cities like Manila and cars made the move easier, as suburban residents can easily drive to work."

Indeed the choice of one's residence is largely dictated by its proximity to workplace, schools and shopping. When leisure is not part of the package, rich families opt to buy weekend suburban properties to satisfy their need for breathing space. Likewise, those who live in outlying provinces who need to be close to work are attracted to condominium living in the city, since most units are within urban centers.

But the city-suburb dichotomy remains confined to Metro Manila and maybe, Metro Cebu, claims Mercado. In fact, he says, "Cities outside of Metro Manila and Metro Cebu more or less remain 'rural' in the culture and nature of their residents who maintain their close linkages with their rural past. This is what we see as the '*promdi* ' culture. 'Promdi' culture is more accepted and pronounced in cities other than Metro Manila. So for me, the suburb-city distinction is actually an 'elitist' and 'western' concept from our real cultural moorings, our '*promdi*' culture."

The danger in this, furthers Mercado, is " the negative backlash of our 'westernized' urbanization: the shopping mall and consumption-based economy and lifestyle. The 'consumption' and 'consumerist' culture is slowly overtaking the sense of community that typifies our '*promdi*' culture."

The lack of urban planning exacerbates the problem, says Mercado. "Most of our planning regulations were taken from both the American and British system."

He adds that public spaces are regulated by the local government unit and the DENR, "which apply environmental standards and impact assessments for any physical construction and disruptions of spaces and places. The problem of course is the implementation of these laws and guidelines." •

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

. 8 .	. . .	7 . .
1 . 7	. . .	. . .
. 4 9	. 2 7	. . 3
. . .	6 . .	4 . .
. . 2	. 8 .	5 . .
. . 8	. . 1	. . .
6 . .	9 4 .	2 5 .
. . .	. . .	3 . 6
. . 4	. . .	. 8 .

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

© 2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

9 02

Answer to previous puzzle

8 6 2	4 9 1	7 5 3
9 7 4	5 8 3	6 2 1
3 1 5	6 2 7	9 8 4
2 9 6	8 1 4	3 7 5
7 3 1	2 5 9	4 6 8
5 4 8	3 7 6	2 1 9
6 8 9	1 3 2	5 4 7
1 2 3	7 4 5	8 9 6
4 5 7	9 6 8	1 3 2

Difficulty Level ★★★★

© 2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

*sunday*INQUIRER*magazine*
sim@inquirer.com.ph

Publisher: Leica R. Carpo
Executive Editor: Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Associate Editor: Ruel S. De Vera
Staff Writer: Eric S. Caruncho
Graphic Consultant: Juan Paolo V. Viloria
Editorial Assistant: Sharon M. Felipe
Advertising and Sales Officer: Mylene de Jesus
Product Manager: Chito San Mateo

Cover: Sarah Geronimo for Xtreme Magic Sing
Volume 20 No. 77 September 2, 2007
ISSN 0116-232X

Comfort Food for Rainy-day Blues (from page 4)

Curious: Drunken Chicken in Hot Pot

where I have found such dumplings in this country is Dong Bei in Chinatown, which was introduced to me a few months ago by Ivan Dy of Old Manila Walks (oldmanilawalks.com).

Other than the dumplings, the noodles are also highly recommended. By noodles I mean the soup noodles, not the stir-fried dish. I ordered the Stir Fried Beef Noodles once and it seemed like the cook just slammed everything in sight into the dish. It reminded me of my dad's cooking, which I would describe as boy scout survival cooking (sorry, dad, you know we love you heaps anyway!). On the one hand it will keep you from going hungry; on the other, it ends there. It can be tasty but unlike a symphony playing one cohesive note, its taste resembles a beginner rock band playing all out of tune. A solution for a hungry stomach, but not for one seeking to dine and not just devour. For those seeking better taste, the soupy Special Taiwan Beef Noodle hits the right note and sings the right melody. A huge bowl of filling noodles that is awarded a star on the menu (meaning it is a bestseller of the restaurant), this noodle dish is just slightly spicy and perfect after a long day or on a cold, rainy day.

A curious dish that I tried on a day I was feeling adventurous was the Drunken Chicken in Hot Pot. You wonder why the meat on this dish does not taste like your ordinary white chicken; instead it tastes a little too much like dark meat. Maybe it had a little too much to drink. So I have been more appreciative of the sober Fish in Tausi Sauce instead. The tofu in this dish is presented in generous blocks, served hot so the tofu melts in your mouth. The way it is mixed also creates a very flavorful, Asian experience for the customer.

Overall, Su Zhou is a great Chinese neighborhood restaurant. It reminds me of those Chinese restaurants in Hollywood movies where the owners and customers know each other by their first names; where the customers have the menu memorized by heart and the owner has the customer's favorites memorized as well. The owner was never around the times that I dined but Luchi, a chatty waitress, usually remembers faces and favorites.

Reliable and just around the corner, Su Zhou makes me dial for dumplings to keep the storm at bay even when it's on its way... to make the living easy, even when it isn't summertime!

Su Zhou Dimsum. A. Mabini cor. Araullo Street, Mandaluyong City. Call (02) 721-6105.

Homing in on a good buy (from page 5)

"Is the house structurally sound? Check the painting, the carpentry, the plumbing and electricity to see if they are working properly. Imagine the house in good weather and bad. Will you be happy with it year-round?" asks Ducay.

Ducay notes that a close review of the exterior of the prospective home can tell a lot about the quality of the structure. Bring a tape measure, he suggests, to check if your appliances and furniture will fit in the space.

"Also, check the ceiling and wall paintings for signs of water stains that could be caused by rain water seeping from the roof or an inadequate drainage system," suggests Ducay.

Remember, you are making a huge investment, he adds. Don't hesitate to ask neighbors or even the barangay captain about the flood and crime situation in the area.

Indeed, this is one of those times when seeking out the local gossip pays; you'd want to know as much as you can about the place that you intend to call your own. •

By Tony Maghirang

Attack of the home-wreckers

How do you deal with rats, cockroaches, termites and other house pests? Is chemical warfare the answer? Or are we poisoning ourselves and the planet in the process?

www.accelterm.com

"HOME, sweet home" can have an entirely new meaning when used in connection with pests. Rats, cockroaches, termites and other pests can treat your house as a veritable food source, reducing it to a shell right under your feet. Termites gnawing at the wooden foundation can literally bite away your home to dust. Rats and cockroaches are not just unsightly creepy crawlies but are also harbingers of life-threatening diseases from cholera to dysentery. Even ticks, mites and lice on pets can be bothersome to both animal and its owner.

The quick fix is to grab an insect spray and shower these unwanted house guests with death-dealing chemicals. There's also germicidal soap and shampoo for pets. For a longer term solution, there's the neighborhood pest exterminator.

There's just a couple of problems. Each type of pest demands its own kind of death sentence so you need to shell out more to kill them all. Chemical insect sprays can turn out to be an expensive way to do away with persistent irritants at home.

Your friendly exterminator, on the other hand, may be delivering a quick, but not necessarily a total, wipe-out. The treatment may last for a year and then the pests will be back in droves. Studies have shown that insects tend to acquire immunity after regular exposure to specific chemicals. Their next infestation may involve a resurgent swarm of highly-resistant, sturdier variant of the original breed.

A more adverse but insidious impact of pest extermination using non-biodegradable chemicals is the potential harm to yourself, your family, and the environment. For one, many chemical elements in pest control products for the home have been distilled from farm pesticides, which are intended to stamp out breeds more powerful and stubborn than termites or rats.

Even distillates carry the potency of the original formulation, some of which have been associated with serious damage to humans and the environment in a number of agricultural Third World economies. At the same time, unless one knows how to read the labels, there's no knowing the risks posed by these unseen, odorless chemicals. This could explain the usual precaution of barring entry into a treated room for at least 30 minutes.

Imagine introducing that potential harm to the comforts of home and house pests may seem to be the lesser evil.

But the Fertilizer and Pesticides Authority (FPA) argues that the devil in chemical pest control may be grossly misrepresented. Gregorio Arboleda, a legal assistant at the Planning Division of the FPA, says that proper and strict controls—from the entry of imported chemicals to the registration of pest control establishments—are in place to prevent harm of any kind to users of pest control products and pest exterminators.

Says Arboleda: "The labels of pesticide products comes with a color code, from red for those containing elements potentially harmful to humans, to green for safe, eco-friendly ones. There is also information on the formulation and application of the pesticide. In the event of an accident, this information will guide the attending physician on how to treat the victim."

He adds that even before the pesticide is introduced into the market, it goes through a strict and rigorous certification process to be undertaken by a professional FPA researcher. The new product is analyzed in the laboratory for its chemical breakdown, toxicity level, etc. It will then be field-tested in all types of conditions: upland, lowland, rain or shine, hot and cold, and all costs will be borne by the importing company. The process may take as long as eight months and can be a very expensive undertaking for the proponent.

The training and certification of pest exterminators by FPA is another set of controls, adds Arboleda. Prospective pest control proponents must undergo a four-day training course culminating in a certification exam. Those who pass the licensure test are given their license after they have set their own pest control company or are employed as exterminators in a pest control establishment.

"The licensed exterminator generally does the formulation of the pesticide and laborers do the actual spraying," he explains. "We always advise the exterminators to be on the project site to supervise the job. Their on-site presence is

(continued on page 14)

Attack of the home-wreckers (from page 13)

vtlmi.labor.state.vt.us

Read labels and ask questions, homeowners are told.

the best guarantee that the pest control job gets done according to safety standards."

Inventor Gonzalo Catan, the man behind Manila Pest Control (Mapecon), gives the same advice to his army of exterminators spread across the country through outlets and franchises.

"All of my products have been developed after due research on the behavior of insects." claims Catan. "We are able to extract attractants from pests such as flies and mosquitoes, then introduce the extracts into contraptions that act as traps. The pests initially become incapacitated, lose their capacity to procreate and then die from lack of food, exhaustion, or crowding from hundreds of other trapped pests."

A new invention called the Quito Catcher bundles a fan, an air purifier, air cooler and pilot light in a single package. The pilot light attracts mosquitoes and other insects such as the flying termites that usually gather around light bulbs during the rainy months. Once the insect moves into the light, the air from the fan blows it into a net that serves as a collecting trap. No chemicals is introduced along the way.

In the end, most homeowners may have no need for exterminators to maintain pest-free homes if they keep these reminders in mind:

• Keep the house and its surroundings clean at all times. Clean up food spills and residues and take out spoiled fruits or vegetables properly to deprive pests of food.

• Remove clutter that may serve as hiding places for roaches and mice.

• Secure windows and doors with screens to prevent the entry of rodents, flies and other flying insects. Inspect attics and *bodegas* regularly and take out rotting materials that may become breeding ground for ants, roaches and even termites.

You may only need exterminators when the problem has gone from manageable to uncontrollable. Remember, eco-friendly pest control should start with the homemaker. •

Bringing the Pinoy closer to home (from page 6)

such as the playground, sports facilities and the clubhouse, with the community of residents sharing in the upkeep.

This can happen with the poor as well. Hernando de Soto, a Peruvian economist who wrote "The Mystery of Capital" some years back, has pointed out that the key to development is giving the poor legal rights, even ownership, of the land on which they live. This gives them collateral so they can borrow money from banks to build a small business, while caring for the land and house on it. People will build on, and care for something they own. Visit the areas in Tondo where people were organized by ZOTO (Zone One Tondo Organization) and are paying to own their land—the homes and streets are well kept in sharp contrast to the misery and squalor of neighboring unorganized slums.

Even when condemned to squat, or to pay outrageous rents on substandard housing, Filipinos find ways to make a home. Think of the possibilities if they see some hope of security of tenure, or of ownership. As people are assured of a private space, even a few square meters, they will expand their sense of home, of *bahay*, to shared public spaces and care for them accordingly. *Uwian na*, going home, then takes on a new meaning. •

Home truths about Pinoy housing

Romulo Ponte

Long before condominiums made compact homes fashionable, majority of Filipinos have had to make do with limited living space. According to the 2000 national census, occupied housing units in the Philippines had a median floor area of 29.63 square meters. This means that more than half (or 59.75 percent) of the country's occupied homes had a floor area below 29.63 square meters as of the year 2000.

The figures are broken down as follows:

• 23.45 percent of occupied housing units had a floor area of 10 to 19 sqm

• 18.78 percent had 20 to 29 sqm of space

• 17.52 percent had less than 10 sqm

• 16.56 percent had 30 to 49 sqm

• 3.21 percent had 90 to 119 sqm

Source: National Statistics Office, 2000 national census: http://www.census.gov.ph/data/pressrelease/2002/pr02178tx.html

Attack of the home-wreckers (from page 13)

vtlmi.labor.state.vt.us

Read labels and ask questions, homeowners are told.

the best guarantee that the pest control job gets done according to safety standards."

Inventor Gonzalo Catan, the man behind Manila Pest Control (Mapecon), gives the same advice to his army of exterminators spread across the country through outlets and franchises.

"All of my products have been developed after due research on the behavior of insects." claims Catan. "We are able to extract attractants from pests such as flies and mosquitoes, then introduce the extracts into contraptions that act as traps. The pests initially become incapacitated, lose their capacity to procreate and then die from lack of food, exhaustion, or crowding from hundreds of other trapped pests."

A new invention called the Quito Catcher bundles a fan, an air purifier, air cooler and pilot light in a single package. The pilot light attracts mosquitoes and other insects such as the flying termites that usually gather around light bulbs during the rainy months. Once the insect moves into the light, the air from the fan blows it into a net that serves as a collecting trap. No chemicals is introduced along the way.

In the end, most homeowners may have no need for exterminators to maintain pest-free homes if they keep these reminders in mind:

• Keep the house and its surroundings clean at all times. Clean up food spills and residues and take out spoiled fruits or vegetables properly to deprive pests of food.

• Remove clutter that may serve as hiding places for roaches and mice.

• Secure windows and doors with screens to prevent the entry of rodents, flies and other flying insects. Inspect attics and *bodegas* regularly and take out rotting materials that may become breeding ground for ants, roaches and even termites.

You may only need exterminators when the problem has gone from manageable to uncontrollable. Remember, eco-friendly pest control should start with the homemaker. •

Bringing the Pinoy closer to home (from page 6)

such as the playground, sports facilities and the clubhouse, with the community of residents sharing in the upkeep.

This can happen with the poor as well. Hernando de Soto, a Peruvian economist who wrote "The Mystery of Capital" some years back, has pointed out that the key to development is giving the poor legal rights, even ownership, of the land on which they live. This gives them collateral so they can borrow money from banks to build a small business, while caring for the land and house on it. People will build on, and care for something they own. Visit the areas in Tondo where people were organized by ZOTO (Zone One Tondo Organization) and are paying to own their land—the homes and streets are well kept in sharp contrast to the misery and squalor of neighboring unorganized slums.

Even when condemned to squat, or to pay outrageous rents on substandard housing, Filipinos find ways to make a home. Think of the possibilities if they see some hope of security of tenure, or of ownership. As people are assured of a private space, even a few square meters, they will expand their sense of home, of *bahay*, to shared public spaces and care for them accordingly. *Uwian na*, going home, then takes on a new meaning. •

Home truths about Pinoy housing

Romulo Ponte

Long before condominiums made compact homes fashionable, majority of Filipinos have had to make do with limited living space. According to the 2000 national census, occupied housing units in the Philippines had a median floor area of 29.63 square meters. This means that more than half (or 59.75 percent) of the country's occupied homes had a floor area below 29.63 square meters as of the year 2000.

The figures are broken down as follows:

- 23.45 percent of occupied housing units had a floor area of 10 to 19 sqm
- 18.78 percent had 20 to 29 sqm of space
- 17.52 percent had less than 10 sqm
- 16.56 percent had 30 to 49 sqm
- 3.21 percent had 90 to 119 sqm

Source: National Statistics Office, 2000 national census: http://www.census.gov.ph/data/pressrelease/2002/pr02178tx.html

RETAKE OF PRECEDING FRAME

By Angelo R. Lacuesta

Vignette from "Fossil"

Was the animal a solitary type, dull and plodding, like the kiwi or a moa? Or was it a social creature, chirpy and zealous like the ostrich or the velociraptor? Were there hordes of them, flightless and stupid, to be fended off or massacred?

THE PAPER proposes a morphology and fine structure of an avio-reptilian macrofossil, based on a recent discovery in the "white subcliff" area of Cebu Island, in the Visayas region of the Philippine archipelago, located in the South China Sea. The partially lithified sediments in the area, 216.2 m above sea level and approximately 15 kilometers inland, are seen as factors that make for the particularly good specimen. Consequent disaggregation in >99% acetic acid has yielded 22 unetched bone segments, identified as fragments of the femur and sacra-lumbar vertebrae.

The initial survey and observations were performed by the writer of this paper, Joanna Marie Belmonte, PhD, accompanied by a contingent from the Departments of Geology and Archaeology at the University of the Philippines - Visayas, under the supervision and guidance of Edward George H. Hill, PhD, RSGP, of the London Museum of Natural Science, under the generous sponsorship of the Department of Palaeontology at the London University of Natural Sciences.

I imagined his shoulders were stiff and red under his denim shirt. It wasn't just the heat and the dryness. It was everything else—our squalid lodgings, the lack of facilities, student volunteers, the incorrigible town hall officials who grudgingly gave us building permits because there was no such thing as an excavation permit. And while the students were careful enough to stay out of Dr. Hill's way, they didn't help the operation either.

Later that day, we were rewarded by a protuberance in the white dust. Feverish, we pretended to suspend operations and sent the volunteers back to camp, assigning them the dubious exercise of extrapolating weather disturbances over a fifty-year period. In the rewarding solitude we set to work with trowels and brushes, finally uncovering what we easily identified by its curve and girth as a femur.

Scientists subsist on facts, not hand-drawn myths, so the femur became the star of our collection, the real, unmythical center of our mystery. I laid it out in the circle of yellow light and wrapped my hand around it, thinking of flesh, fascia, skin. And on top of that, scales, feathers or hair. It was only when I was alone that I could dare speculate on the form that collected these details--each a speculation in itself. Was the animal a solitary type, dull and plodding, like the kiwi or a moa? Or was it a social creature, chirpy and zealous like the ostrich or the velociraptor? Were there hordes of them, flightless and stupid, to be fended off or massacred?

"It's not single malt, but it'll do," he said. He presented the last of the Tanduay to me as if it were a specimen, label up.

Through the liquid I saw his hands, so white and so pink where the skin pressed against the glass. I had a fascination for this, the physical part of him, not simply his presence, like an athlete's or a rugby player's, but the flesh of that presence. He took me to a rugby match once. I remember seeing the rugby players in the flesh for the first time, their knee socks gripping the contours of calf muscles. Their bodies turned everything they wore into flesh, into living organs.

Then he raised the bottle to me. "To our dragon," he said.

I retreated to my tent and studied the femur, holding its three-foot shape against the lamp and let the gaseous haze gather images around it. At an angle, it summoned a massive lizard, like a *tuko* as large as a fallen log, coolly blowing out a cloud of poison gas, rot of partially digested food and internal fauna; horizontally, it conjured a lost precursor of the crocodile, dragging a belly full of prey; upright, it summoned a reptile, a swooping and birdlike figure that crushed skulls and emitted a hypersonic cry.

I switched off the lamp, parted one nylon curtain and then another. I slipped into his sleeping bag, opened his lips with mine and probed his mouth with my tongue. I dug my knee into the warm, tender space under his belly. I slid my hand down and felt him harden quickly.

My first view of London was a postcard cut into the shape of the Tower of London, full of happy cartoon people waving from the castle windows. It was sent to me by a friend who was touring Europe with her parents. I finally saw the real thing twenty years later, with the Pinoy friends I had made in London. I was on a postgraduate scholarship, but they probably saw me as a nurse or a medical technician.

I was mildly disappointed to find there wasn't much of a tower on it. The only things I could really remember were the ravens, themselves born of a long and kingly lineage, four feet tall, larger and blacker than I had expected them to be. The flyer cautioned visitors from coming too near the birds—their wings had been clipped but they could still attack you with beaks and claws. •

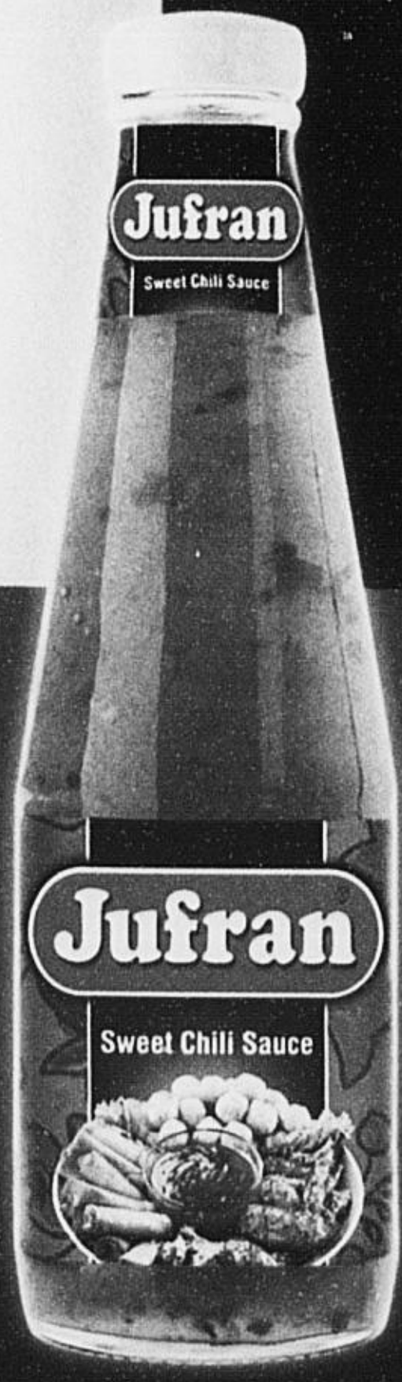
Operation: Jufran® Kingdoms of Asia Salad-

A Certified Success

Dr. Martin and Dr. Trina Luna
Emergency Medicine Physician and Dentist

With Jufran® Sweet Chili Sauce, your cooking is sure to impress! Cook daily for your family, friends and loved ones using Jufran® Sweet Chili Sauce--now with the all new look and still the same unique flavor. Go ahead! Experiment! The only limit is your imagination!

For starters, try the Luna's "Kingdoms of Asia Salad." It's not only yummy, it's healthy for you, too. This is easy to make together with your partner. First, prepare the dressing: Combine 1/2 cup Jufran® Sweet Chili Sauce, 3 tbsps orange juice, 1 tbsp lemon juice, 1/4 cup Canola oil, 1 1/2 tsp salt, 1/4 tsp white pepper, 1 tsp mustard and 2 tsps chopped shallots.

In a platter, arrange 1 cup diced ripe mango, 30 pcs fried wanton wrapper, 150g mixed lettuce, 1 cup soy or white chicken, 1/2 cup sliced & fried Lap Cheong sausage, 1/2 cup diced apple, 1/2 cup peeled mandarin orange, 1/2 cup peeled pomelo, 1 cup blanched asparagus, 1 cup whole kernel or baby corn, 2 tbsps julienne of leeks and 1/4 cup julienne of carrots. Serve with the dressing or drizzle dressing on platter. How about you?

What's your Jufran® today?